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THE TIMES

Europa: Viscount Davignon on telematics and jobs

Landslide victory expected to bring Mr Mugabe overall majority in Rhodesia

Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party seemed set last night to win a sweeping victory in the Rhodesian elections and an overall majority in the new Parliament. A Mugabe spokesman predicted that the party would win 60 of the 80 black seats in the 100-member assembly. Both Mr Mugabe and Lord Soames, the Governor appealed for calm, lawful behaviour and an orderly transfer of power to a new government.

Soames appeal for orderly transfer of power

From Nicholas Ashford
and Dan van der Vat
Salisbury, March 3

With counting of ballot papers in Southern Rhodesia's general election almost complete, Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party seemed set for a landslide victory tonight.

Although a formal announcement of the final election result will not be made until tomorrow morning, observers were confidently predicting that Mr Mugabe would win a clear majority in the new Parliament.

Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, the Commander of Combined Operations, and Mr Mugabe joined Lord Soames, the Governor, tonight in a *broadcast appealing for calm* after the election results are announced.

General Walls and Mr Mugabe both emphasized that anyone breaking the law would be punished and appealed to supporters of both winning and losing parties to work for national unity.

Reports from six of Rhodesia's eight provinces indicated that Zanu (PF) was far ahead of its two main rivals, Bishop Abel Muzorewa's UANC and Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front. Only in the two Matabeleland provinces was the *Patriotic Front certain to win a* majority of the total of 16 seats being contested there.

Zanu (PF) appeared to be establishing a dominant lead in the key Mashonaland East province, which includes the capital, Salisbury. By early this evening, in Salisbury City 120,000 votes had been counted for Mr Mugabe, compared with only 9,000 for Bishop Muzorewa and 5,000 for Mr Nkomo.

A *similar* trend was emerging in the rural areas of Mashonaland East, where 130,000 votes had gone to Zanu (PF), as against 10,000 to the UANC and about 6,000 to the Patriotic Front.

In the Mashonaland West province Zanu (PF) was reported to have captured six *of the eight seats being con*tested and the Patriotic Front the other two.

A similar pattern of voting was reported in Mashonaland Central, where Mr Mugabe's party had won between 70 and 75 per cent of the votes counted so far, with around 18 per cent going to the Patriotic Front and *less than 10 per cent* to the UANC.

Heavy voting in favour of Mr Mugabe's party was also taking place in the Eastern Manicaland province, where it looked as though Zanu (PF) might capture all 11 seats. Zanu (PF) was also *expected to* make a clean sweep in Victoria.

Preliminary estimates from the Midlands province showed that Zanu (PF) was likely to *win* between eight and nine seats out of 12 being contested, with the rest going to the Patriotic Front.

This trend will disappoint Mr Nkomo, who is personally standing in the Midlands and who had hoped to pick up at least *half of the seats in the province* to add to those of his Matabeleland power base.

The voting pattern in the three Mashonaland provinces *appeared to be a serious blow* to the hopes of Bishop Muzorewa, who expected to make a much stronger impression *in* Salisbury and the surrounding "white" *farming areas. In last* April's election, the UANC won all of the seats in the three provinces.

Mr Eddison Zvogbo, the electoral *director of Zanu (PF)*, confidently predicted tonight that the party would get 60 seats. "I have said publicly many times that we were headed *for a landslide* and *now it has* come to pass.

"It is no longer a question of whether we will win but only by what margin we will win. We may get 60 seats, and that should be no surprise to anybody," he said.

No matter how *many* seats the party won, it would still seek to persuade Mr Nkomo and his Patriotic Front to join a coalition, a political alliance like their military one during the war.

"Mr Nkomo has contributed a great deal to national unity, he has suffered and he is everybody's grandfather," Mr Zvobgo said. He added: "The people of Zimbabwe have placed imperialism *(meaning Britain)* in a real quandary. The tricks they were about to play to keep us out of government are no use now."

No *immediate comment* was available tonight from either the UANC or the Patriotic Front. A distraught Mr James Chikerema, the leader of the Zimbabwe Democratic Party, who observed the count this afternoon, said he feared his party might not win any seats at all.

In his broadcast tonight, Lord Soames appealed for calm after tomorrow's announcement of the election.

He asked every citizen to set an example to his neighbour in accepting the result in an orderly manner so that the country could have a new start in peace and dignity.

"This is a solemn hour for

Continued on page 6, col 5

Just like wartime in Amsterdam. Tanks roll through the rubble in front of the house occupied by squatters, still defiant despite the efforts of a 1,100-strong police force. Report, page 4.

One third of commercial fires 'caused by arson'

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

At least one third of all claims on commercial fire insurance policies are the result of arson, directors of Royal Insurance claimed yesterday. Total fire losses in the United Kingdom last year were about £355m and Royal met claims of around £35m.

The group is becoming alarmed by the increasing incidence of fire-raising by hooligans and to a lesser extent for *fraudulent purposes.*

Mr K. M. Bevins, outgoing *chief general manager, said*: "All too many fires seem to start at three or four different points of a plant at the same time. The trouble is that the more successful the arson attempt is the less likelihood there will be of it being discovered".

Financial Editor, page 19

State is not to be seen as a universal provider, Mrs Thatcher says

By John Groser

Ordinary men and women who *are neither poor nor suffering* should not look to the state as a universal provider, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said in London yesterday.

Speaking at the first Airey Neave memorial lecture, she added that the real relationship between state and people was crucial to her Government's approach. "Our understanding of economics, our economic *philosophy*, is an extension of our general philosophy."

The Prime Minister's basic philosophy may be eclectic, but the words are unmistakably *from the school of Professor* Milton Friedman.

"Economics means harnessing change instead of being dominated by it", she said.

Mrs Thatcher developed *one* of her favourite themes, that if, in recent years, Britain had done less well than it might have done, it was not because the nation was bad or incompetent, but because a layer of illusion had smothered its moral sense.

She listed five illusions that *she* believes have *blinded the* nation: that government can be a universal provider and yet society still stays free and prosperous; that government can *print money and yet the nation* still have sound money; that we can break the link between reward and effort and still get the effort; that every loss can be *covered* by *a subsidy*; and that basic economic laws can be suspended simply because we are British.

Seemingly preparing the *nation for the bitter pill of the* Budget, Mrs Thatcher explained that "for government, facing our national problems entails, above all, keeping the growth *in the amount of money in line* with the growth in the amount of goods and services. After *years of printing too much* money . . this will take time, but it must be done."

It was not only the total amount of money that mattered, *she said. It was how that money* was distributed between the public sector, which produced little real wealth, and industry and commerce, the mainstays of the economy.

"At present too much is spent on the public sector", Mrs Thatcher said. It followed that the Government's second most important task was to reduce state spending so that more resources could be put to investment in industry and investment and commerce.

Too much money spent by government had gone to support industries which had made, and were continuing to make, heavy losses. In future industry would have to adapt to produce goods that would sell in tomorrow's *world.*

The policies proposed by the Government were a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition for recovery. The British *economy* was the *people* at work—their efforts and their attitudes. Success would be achieved only in so far as people related the rewards they received to the *efforts* they made, and when managers freed from restrictions imposed by previous governments, responded to their newfound freedom to manage.

"This is a daunting but exhilarating mission. We shall see it through. We owe it to our people. We owe it to Airey".

The Prime Minister was in no doubt that her administration was still in the early stages of the journey to national recovery. "We have a clear notion in our party of our destination. We have a vision of a state which will be more effective because it will be more modest", she said.

Mrs Thatcher had started by referring to the loss almost a year ago of Mr Neave, when he was assassinated by Irish terrorists in the precincts of the *House of Commons. The political philosophy that guided his* life was near her own, she said. Great statesmen of the Tory Party would have been strongly behind the first *principle of her* Government, which was to revive a sense of individual responsibility.

"It is to reinvigorate not just the economy and industry, but the whole body of voluntary associations, loyalties and activities which give society its richness and diversity and hence its real strength. We are convinced that a society of this sort is the best one in which to live", she said.

"The trouble is that when the state becomes *involved* in every strike, price or contract affecting a nationalized industry, people tend to associate the state with those things rather than with its higher, traditional and necessary role."

She wanted her audience to be quite clear that strong government was quite different from total or absolute government. Conservatives, unlike the *political theorists of idealism*, neither identify the state with society, nor absorb society within the state.

Today many services were the object of government participation or supervision. But, however important, they should not in a free society be government monopolies, even though government may be responsible for the larger part.

"What we need is a strong state determined to maintain in good repair the frame which surrounds society.

"But the frame should not be so heavy or so elaborate as to dominate the whole picture", Mrs Thatcher said.

Jury vetting attacked by Lord Denning

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, in the course of a single judgment, has criticized the judges of the House of Lords, cast doubt on the two-tier appeal system, strongly attacked the practice of jury vetting as unconstitutional and suggested a new way of interpreting statutory provisions.

He was giving judgment in an appeal in which the main point at issue was whether a Crown Court judge, Judge Pickles, at the Sheffield Crown Court, had the right to make an order allowing the vetting of potential jurors in a case in which police officers were accused of assault.

The Court of Appeal ruled by a majority of 2—1 that it had no jurisdiction to interfere with the judge's order. Lord Denning dissented, but had comments to make about both statutory interpretation and jury vetting. Lord Justice Sebag Shaw joined Lord Denning in condemning jury vetting and questioning its legal validity.

Lord Denning referred to cases where a number of *judges, including those of the* House of Lords, were split on the meaning of particular words in statutes. He cited two cases in the House of Lords where *the decision was taken by a* 3—2 majority. "It shows what a gamble it is. Change the constitution by one and you have a different result."

He suggested that the test between different linguistic or *semantic interpretations* of statute should be: Which gives the more sensible result?

Lord Denning said that the case of Express Newspapers Ltd *and MacShane vindicated that* approach. Five judges held that the test for the word "furtherance" (of a trade dispute) was objective, four that it was subjective. "Subsequent events and subsequent comments have shown convincingly that the four in the majority in the House of Lords made the wrong choice.

Lord Denning said that to his mind it was unconstitutional for the police authorities to engage in jury vetting. "So long as a person is eligible for jury service and is not disqualified, I cannot think it right that, behind his back, the police should go through his records so as to enable him to be asked to stand by the Crown or to be challenged by the defence.

"If this sort of thing is to be allowed, what comes of a man's right of privacy? He is bound to *serve on a jury* when summoned. Is he thereby liable to have his past record raked up against him, and presented on a plate to prosecuting and defending lawyers, who may use it to keep him out of the jury

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Athletes ready to send a team to Moscow

By Norman Fox

In the event of an official British boycott of the Olympic Games, the International Athletes' Club, with a membership of 600, would be prepared to send a team to Moscow in defiance of government recommendations, it was announced yesterday.

A poll among 108 probable Olympic athletes showed that 79 felt it was their right to compete.

The club has written to the Prime Minister enclosing a copy of the letter signed by the athletes declaring that while "in no way" supporting Soviet domestic and foreign policies they were not prepared to "preside over the destruction of the Olympic movement".

Today the British Olympic Association meets in London to *make a decision on whether to* support Mrs Thatcher and President Carter's proposals for a boycott; but it is expected that the members will postpone *their final answer for about six* or seven weeks.

The athletes' club says this would be "disastrous" for the members whose preparations would be badly overshadowed, and for the fund raising schemes.

Members believe that the British Olympic Association will also have to admit that fund raising is suffering severe *damage because of the uncertainty.*

Mr Derek Johnson, secretary of the club and a former Olympic medal winner, said that if the British Olympic Association did try to impose a boycott and the British Amateur Athletic Board complied, the IAC would apply to the International Olympic Committee to organize a team of its own.

The club would take the view that the British Olympic Association was in breach of Olympic rule 24c, which states that national committees "must resist all pressure of any kind whatsoever, whether of a political, religious, or economic nature".

However, if the British board reiterated its opposition to a boycott, it would receive the club's cooperation.

Mr Johnson attacked Mrs Thatcher's involvement in the matter and said the club would suggest that groups of participants in other *sports* formed action committees and took similar steps.

So far 14 of the 26 sports involved have indicated that *they want to accept invitations* to compete in Moscow. Earlier this week nine former British Olympic medal winners wrote to Mrs Thatcher and sports *officials asking for the proposed* boycott to be called off.

The club is an influential and

Continued on page 4, col 1

Summonses for Westward TV chief and wife

Summonses have been served on Mr Peter Cadbury, aged 61, head of Westward Television, and his wife, Jane, alleging that they wasted police time.

Devon and Cornwall police said today, that the summonses had been issued by the Director of Public Prosecutions' office *in London.*

The case is due to be heard at Plymouth magistrates' court on April 9.

Mr Cadbury moved recently to a £2m mansion at Yealmpton, seven miles from Plymouth.

Dirty books guide on the small screen suspended

By Craig Seton

The "buyer's guide to dirty books" which was available on the Post Office's Prestel viewdata service has been suspended, it was announced yesterday.

The Post Office had received a series of complaints about the "offensive" nature of the guide, but yesterday Mills and Allen Communications, London, who provided it for Prestel, said it was being withdrawn because one of the five Soho bookshops it named had been raided by the police last week.

Details of the guide were *disclosed in The Times* last Wednesday. Its pages gave a brief guide to "girlie mags, specialist mags and erotic novels" and listed the five London bookshops where they could be obtained.

Mr Paul McFarland, viewdata editor at Mills and Allen Communications, who has denied that the material was indecent or obscene, said that he had received no complaints about the guide, which had been suspended because "the legality of one of the shops has been called into question."

The news came too late for Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the honorary general secretary of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, who has *written to Sir William Barlow,* chairman of the Post Office, asking him to take steps to prevent "a public service being exploited in this way."

Steel company sues police for £500,000 damages

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

Hadfields, the big private steel plant, which has been a main target for steel pickets, is to sue the police for £500,000 damages.

Lawyers acting for the Sheffield firm, owned by Lonhro, are *filing a claim under* a 100-year-old Act of Parliament.

Details were given to members of the South Yorkshire county police authority at a secret meeting yesterday. The press and public were not admitted.

Councillors, magistrates and officials who attended were told that the claim is *already* in the hands of the police force.

It is understood that the bill includes amounts for damage to property, loss of profits and theft of property when 1,500 pickets laid siege to the firm on St Valentine's Day.

If the claim—for *£591,000* submitted under the Riot Damages Act of 1886—succeeds the ratepayers would have to pay.

Last night Mr Derek Norton, managing director of Hadfields, confirmed that his company had made a claim against the police. He said: "I can make no further comment. I am not prepared to discuss the amount of the claim."

Mr Norton said he expected the issue to be decided in court. A joint statement might be made by the police and *the* company in the next few days: but Mr George Moores, police authority chairman, said he knew nothing about this.

Vote to return: Workers at the North East's biggest private *steel firm yesterday* voted overwhelmingly to return to work (the Press Association reports). Steelman at Darlington and Simpson rolling mills decided at a mass meeting to end their 34-day strike.

Prior appeal, and steel beats blockade, page 2

Mr Kennedy losing support in home state

Senator Edward Kennedy plunged *into the two final days of campaigning* for the crucial Democratic primary vote in his home state of Massachusetts. Apart from hard core supporters like the unions and the state's *Irish* and Italian Roman Catholic communities, the warmth of feeling that sent him to the Senate with a huge majority seems to be cooling rapidly. He needs to win a majority of the votes *if his already* trimmed down campaign is to *continue* Page 6

Couple running home fined

A couple were fined for running an unregistered *nursing* home in West Kensington, London. One of the defendants, a nursing assistant aged 48, married a wealthy spinster aged 93 who was living at the home: she died two months later Page 3

Brussels tries to end 'lamb war'

A possible truce in the EEC's long-running "lamb war" has been discussed in Brussels by agriculture ministers, but it seems unlikely to satisfy British conditions. *The plan* would require France to accept *British lamb in return* for compensatory subsidies Page 5

Blow for Liberals

Liberal Party campaigners in the Southend, East, by-election are angry about the *candidature of an Independent Liberal,* Mr James Curry, which is seen as a setback to their hopes of winning the seat from the Tories. Mr Curry had said on Sunday that he would not stand Page 4

Quisling bequest

Mrs Maria Quisling, the widow of the man who was executed for his role during the German occupation of Norway, has left the greatest part of her and her husband's joint *estate for setting up a charitable* foundation to benefit the poor of Oslo Page 6

Scargill assurance on pit delegates

Miners' delegates to the annual meeting of Barnsley constituency Labour Party, at which a number of left-wing supporters were elected, were eligible to attend and to vote, Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire miners, said. The move has been seen as the first step in a drive to oust Mr Roy Mason, the MP Page 2

Dublin initiative

A meeting between Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Foreign Minister, and Lord Carrington heralds an attempt by the Dublin Government to persuade *Britain to enter a dialogue over* Ulster. Further talks are planned, including a meeting between Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher Page 4

Sterling weakens

Sterling plummeted against the dollar on world markets. It lost more then 3 cents and closed at $2.242 in Lon*don. On the trade weighted* index the pound closed at 72.6 per cent of its 1971 value Page 17

Robinson successor

Mr Jack Adams, an upholsterer at BL's Longbridge car factory was chosen last night to succeed Mr Derek Robinson as convener of shop stewards there. Like Mr Robinson, he was disciplined by the company for leading a campaign of disruption against the Edwardes recovery plan

HOME NEWS

Mr Prior appeals to steel unions and employers to appoint a mediator to settle their dispute

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

To get a settlement of the steel strike the best way forward is for the unions and the employers to agree on the appointment of an independent mediator, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday.

He told MPs and political journalists at a Parliamentary Press Gallery luncheon that he had favoured the proposal when it was put forward some weeks ago by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) and he hoped that before long it would be accepted by both sides.

Mr Prior had been asked whether he felt like Mr Ray Gunter, a former Labour Minister for Employment, who said the job was like living on a bed of nails. "Unfortunately", he replied, "it has been replaced not only by the bed of nails but by a lot of knives which are coming at me from all directions."

He was asked whether it was unfair to say that he was a "softie" on industrial relations while in truth he was doing what the more "hawkish" members of the Cabinet wanted done in a more brash way.

He replied: "The answer to that is that sometimes it requires more courage to go slowly and to resist the temptation to shout with a loud voice.

"It is better if one pursues a steady path and keeps reasonably quiet about it. I believe it is better to act firmly and talk softly. That is the better way to carry through industrial relations legislation.

"What the press says about me is sometimes quite helpful. The more the *Daily Express* inveighs against me, the harder it is for the TUC to mount a campaign against me. So, sometimes, albeit for reasons totally separate from those that they intend, some of the criticism is helpful to me."

With good humour Mr Prior turned a thick skin against some of his critics. "In the last few weeks I have been called a sloth, a pussyfoot and a rhinoceros, so I have done fairly well so far as animals are concerned", he said.

That remark contained a sly reference to a leading article in *The Times*.

On his relations with other Cabinet ministers, Mr Prior said: "I reiterate that I am absolutely wholehearted in supporting all the efforts being made by the Government to arrest the present economic decline and in every way trying to set Britain back on a better path.

"When it comes to public expenditure, I do believe, and believe emphatically and implicitly, that the Government has to reduce the amount of money it is spending for itself in order to leave money for people to spend for themselves or for private industry to spend.

"It must do this if it is to stop the increase in interest rates which have accompanied the increase in the borrowing requirement in the last few years.

The TUC had indicated in a document issued that day the seven principles they wished the Chancellor of the Exchequer to adopt.

"I can only say that if we were to follow these principles we should not have a minimum lending rate of 17 per cent, it would be 27 per cent," Mr Prior said.

"I do not believe that those policies are relevant to what the TUC wants or what the country wants."

Food firms' layoffs expected to treble

By Hugh Clayton

The number of workers laid off by food companies was likely to treble in the next fortnight unless the steel strike ended, the Food Manufacturers' Federation said yesterday. Its weekly survey showed that an increase in lay-offs to 3,700 from the present 1,200 was "highly probable".

Output of HP baked beans will cease this week when 180 production workers are laid off at a tinned food factory owned by Smedley-HP at North Walsham, Norfolk. The company stopped production at its other two canneries last week.

Production ceased yesterday at Samor Pure Foods, of Didcot, Oxfordshire, and about 250 production workers have been laid off. The company is owned by Heinz, who said that only two of 21 deliveries of tins expected at Samor last week from the Metal Box Company had arrived. Metal Box said it would meet 30 per cent of demand for food tins this week.

The Brooke Bond Leibig group said that 250 of the 350 workers at its tinned meat factory at Hackney, London, would be laid off on Friday because of the shortage of cans.

Supplies filter through in coasters under the guise of other cargo

Imports continue to flow in despite blockade

By Frances Gibb, Peter Hill and Donald Macintyre

Imports of iron and steel have continued to flow into Britain despite the picketing and blockading of ports by striking steelworkers. The indications from the latest official survey of the balance of trade show that developing countries are exploiting the shortfall in British Steel Corporation production.

The value of imports in January, the first month of the strike by members of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation in support of their pay claim totalled £87.3m, representing a slight fall on the previous month's total of £94.5m.

Although the level of imports (excluding wire and wire rod) was down from 275,000 tonnes in December to 256,000 tonnes in January, the level was significant against the background of the support pledged from the International Metal Workers' Federation in blacking exports to the United Kingdom in support of the strike.

The activities of foreign steelmakers in negotiating supply contracts with BSC customers is a considerable source of concern to the corporation for its future business once the strike is resolved.

On present estimates the share of the market held by imports could rise to more than 30 per cent in the aftermath of the strike and since many foreign suppliers are prepared only to negotiate deals on a long-term basis, the potential loss of business is substantial.

Although most of the import categories remained stable or fell marginally there were increases during January in specific product categories, mainly in those areas where the BSC is the dominant, if not the monopoly, United Kingdom producer.

Imports of steel plates and sheets rose to 138,022 tonnes during January, from 127,515 tonnes the previous month, and imports of iron and steel coil for rerolling also showed an appreciable increase.

An important feature of the import trends during January was the surge in the level of shipments from South Korea and Brazil, which are among the leaders in the production of steel among developing countries.

Shipments of wide steel coil from South Korea during January totalled just over 18,000 tonnes having failed to record any shipments during the two previous months to the United Kingdom, Brazil shipped steel valued at £4.6m during January, almost half the total value of its steel exports last year to the United Kingdom, which amounted to £10.74m.

In another development, steel union leaders are expected to hold urgent talks with airline employees' leaders over what they suspect is the increasing use of air freighted imports of high value steel to beat the strike.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the confederation, is likely to get in touch with the British Airline Pilots' Association about "tip-offs" received by the confederation that consumers have stepped up their use of airlines to bring in steel through Heathrow and other airports.

Although the proportion of the estimated three million tonnes of steel imports a year capable of transport by air is small, the costliness of the stainless and alloy rods and bars involved has prompted confederation leaders to seek to plug what they see as a significant loophole in their attempted blockade of imports.

Despite persistent reports that seaborne steel is continuing to come through smaller docks, the confederation yesterday claimed that it had blocked off about 90 per cent of steel through ports in London and the South, the region hitherto thought the "weakest" during the union blockade.

The confederation said yesterday that after a Transport and General Workers' Union shop stewards' meeting on Friday, London dockers, particularly in smaller wharves outside the main Port of London Authority area, were likely to refuse to handle imported steel.

Mr Brian Connolly, the confederation's picket coordinator for the South, said yesterday: "Last week I would not have been confident about giving you a figure, but now I believe we have closed off 90 per cent of imports".

The Confederation admits that support for the steelworkers among dockers at some smaller ports has been "variable", though solid among Transport and General Workers' Union and National Union of Railwaymen members in the state-owned British Transport Docks Board and other larger registered ports.

A not untypical example may be Poole, in Dorset, a smaller port employing registered dockers and estimated last year to have handled 100,000 tonnes in imports of steel. Among their customers are British Leyland and Guest Keen Nettlefold.

The port has been picketed, mainly by the confederation's members, but Mr James Stewart, the Poole docks manager, estimated that 3,500 tonnes, a third of their potential business, might have got through to customers since the strike began.

Another third was tied up in railway sidings because of NUR refusal to handle it and a further third was stored at the port.

Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, the TGWU's general secretary, has put the union's executive officer, Mr Ronald Todd, in charge of tightening the union's embargo on steel movements. Mr Evans said that the unions should do more to prevent the movement of steel to bring a speedier end to the strike.

Not all London supply points have been successfully blockaded by pickets. A private wharf in Millwall is handling 70 per cent of its normal tonnage, but refuses to disclose what that is.

Steel supplies from Holland, Belgium, France and Germany are trickling in through east and south coast ports, despite official blacking by port unions, often under the guise of other cargoes.

The East Anglian area manager of a firm of trailer operators said it had not increased the amount of steel handled since the strike, but was attempting to meet the needs of its regular road haulier customers.

It is handling a small amount of 20 flats of steel a week, or 400 tonnes, mostly from Germany, which is taken by different road haulage firms.

Mr Scargill vouches for eligibility of delegates

From Ronald Kershaw
Barnsley

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, yesterday answered questions raised by members of Barnsley constituency Labour party about the eligibility of miners' delegates to attend the party's annual meeting last Friday.

He said: "I can give a categorical assurance that every delegate who attended the meeting was eligible to be there and eligible to vote, and all had been approved by the constituency party".

During the party meeting all "moderate" officials were replaced by left-wing supporters and of the 16 trade union seats on the constituency party executive, 10 were taken by NUM candidates.

The left-wing coup, generally attributed to the strategy of Mr Scargill, is considered by many labour party members to be the first move in a campaign to unseat Mr Roy Mason, Barnsley's moderate Labour MP, in favour of a radical representative more in step with left-wing politics.

Direct questions on whether he had organized a left-wing takeover at Barnsley: whether he wished to see Mr Mason removed or even whether he considered that left-wing elements had come to power in Barnsley, were not directly answered by Mr Scargill, who in replying merely referred to the democratic process that had taken place at the annual meeting

Asked about the dramatic increase in miners' representation at the annual meeting, Mr Scargill said it was the policy of the union to see itself adequately and reasonably represented in constituencies where there were or had been mining MPs. There were more Barnsley miners living in the Barnsley constituency than there were affiliated, he said.

Asked about a newspaper report of miners' delegates being paid, Mr Scargill said members of the NUM in Yorkshire who attended union meetings, whether they were before Labour party meetings at Barnsley, Castleford Doncaster or Blackpool, all received payments in accordance with the rules

Mr Scargill has in the past referred to the payment of expenses incurred by members of the union attending union meetings.

Mr Henri Hansen, skipper of the Grimsby fishing boat, Olympic (front) and Mr Herluf Jansen, the first mate, landing at their home port yesterday. They were rescued with a third crew member having been adrift in a raft in the North Sea for three days after an explosion sank their boat.

Printers outside London plan industrial action

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The main union in the printing industry has drawn up plans for industrial action that would affect newspapers outside London after the breakdown of pay talks.

Leaders of the National Graphical Association met yesterday to discuss the breakdown and it is understood they decided to take action if the employers refuse to drop some aspects of a productivity plan.

The union has decided to boycott further talks which are to be held in London on Thursday but may attend if the employers drop their insistence on reducing the apprenticeship period in the industry.

The union's claim is for a 28 per cent pay increase and a reduced working week. The employers, the British Printing Industries Federation and the Newspaper Society, have offered 14.6 per cent and have linked any reduction in working hours to wide-ranging productivity plans.

Four unions representing printing workers on national newspapers have voted in ballots to accept a 14 per cent pay offer

Horse put down to get rid of evidence, QC says

A hopeless, pigeon-toed racehorse was destroyed hours after it was supposed to have been an easy 20-length winner, the prosecution said at Exeter Crown Court yesterday. But the horse, In the Money, had never taken part in the two-mile race at Newton Abbot racecourse.

A trainer and a jockey are charged with conspiracy and deception.

The bay gelding which won was a more successful animal, Cobblers March, running under In the Money's name, Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC for the prosecution, said.

In the Money had been put down as a way of getting rid of the evidence, he added.

John Bowles, aged 33, the trainer and John Williams, aged 30, a National Hunt jockey, face two joint conspiracy charges and one of deception.

Mr Bowles faces a fourth charge, also alleging deception.

Both men pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Lord Hutchinson said In the Money had a disastrous career in racing. After four performances it had broken down. It was in a bad condition and could only be walked.

But, for the Newton Abbot race, on August Bank Holiday Monday, 1978, In the Money was backed down from 33-1 to an official starting price of 8-1.

By the "off" some on-course bookmakers were refusing to take bets o nthe horse because of the unusual amount of money pouring in on it, he said. "There was a feeling that something was up."

The trial continues today.

Metal Box warning on tinplate

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Senior British Steel Corporation management has been told that orders affecting almost half of its tinplate production will go elsewhere if the continued strike prevents the Metal Box Company from trading normally.

At a high-level meeting Metal Box directors said that since the steel strike started they had been under steadily increasing pressure from their customers to reduce their dependence on the BSC in future.

Metal Box, which provides most of the cans for Britain's food industry, has been badly affected. More than 5,000 workers at 17 of its 24 plants have been laid off.

The company has been ordering almost 500,000 tonnes of steel a year from the corporation, representing almost half of BSC tinplate total production. Almost 90 per cent of the company's tinplate requirements have been ordered from the corporation's works at Ebbw Vale, Trostre and Velindre.

A British Steel Corporation spokesman said: "Since the strike started some 160,000 tonnes of tinplate production has been lost, and irreparable damage has already been done to what was a profitable and comparatively secure business."

The implications of a change in supply policy by Metal Box would have vital consequences for the corporation's tinplate division. Its plant at Ebbw Vale, built at a cost of £57m, has been in operation for only two years.

Most of Metal Box's difficulties arise from the continued picketing of its Neath plant, which produces can ends for the rest of the company.

TUC fears judges will get too much power

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Trade union leaders are today to meet Mr James Prior, Secretary for Employment, to discuss his amendments to the Government's Employment Bill covering blacking and other forms of secondary industrial action.

The TUC employment policy and organization committee will raise with the minister the dangers they see in the Cabinet's decision to narrow further the immunities enjoyed by trade unionists.

A confidential policy document prepared by the TUC for the meeting argues that the new amendments outlined in a government working paper involve legal changes "even more fundamental than the original Employment Bill".

The union view is that the Government is edging its way to a legal structure "very similar to the Industrial Relations Act, 1971". And under such a law "notions of solidarity and sympathetic support will receive short shrift from the judiciary".

All 112 unions affiliated to the TUC have been circularized with a copy of the Government's working paper and the TUC's comments, in readiness for the propaganda battle that is expected when the amendments reach Parliament.

"The new legalistic devices are designed to diminish the negotiating strength of trade unions in modern society", the policy document argues.

"The new restrictions on trade union rights come at the very time when new arrangements are being made on the part of employers nationally to increase their muscle by such arrangements as the CBI strike insurance scheme."

The first device the TUC says, is to limit the formula "furtherance of a trade dispute", the basis on which trade union rights have existed for a century in Britain. The new definition of furtherance is regarded as objectionable in three ways:

First, it limits the scope of that formula more narrowly than ever before in English law.

"Secondly, by introducing the 'objective' test (that the action is reasonably capable of furthering the trade dispute), it places control of the legality of industrial action completely in the hands of the judges.

"Thirdly, the application of the new definition will lead to great uncertainty."

In cases where an interim injunction is sought and trade unionists are "dragged into court at very short notice", the TUC adds, they are always at a disadvantage when this kind of judicial control is exercised.

"With inadequate evidence, the trade unionist will have to prove not only a 'predominant' genuine intention to support the trade dispute, but also that his acts were 'reasonably capable' of supporting the dispute, to the satisfaction of the judges."

On the issue of injunctions, the unions concede that a full trial rarely takes place; an interim injunction is what the complainant wants. "If the working paper becomes law, it will be far easier for employers to obtain injunctions against working people involved in industrial action.

"Failure to obey an injunction is a contempt of court for which the normal sanction is imprisonment, or a fine, or both. Moreover, plaintiffs may well proceed more frequently to a full trial in order to claim damages against trade union officials. If this happened, the amounts involved could be very large indeed."

Youth jailed over car crash death

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Anthony Lynch, aged 17, was jailed by Judge Bingham, QC, at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday for three years and banned from driving for four years after pleading guilty to causing the death of James Holmes, aged 37, by reckless driving

Lynch, of Cullen Close, Everton, Liverpool, was said to have taken a Ford Cortina on November 25, ignored a police signal to stop, and to have gone through five successive traffic lights at red with his speed ranging from 50-70 mph.

At the sixth light, in Everton Valley, with his speed around 90 mph, the car skidded out of control and struck a Mini, hurling it 21 feet through the air and killing its driver. The three passengers were seriously injured.

Lynch and his passenger were knocked unconscious. A boy of 16, who admitted taking the car without authority with Lynch, was sent to borstal.

Jail sentence on pilot

Kenneth Pinder, aged 49, an airline pilot, of Huntingdon Street, Islington, London, was sentenced to six months in prison, fined £500 and banned from driving for 10 years by magistrates of Brighton yesterday after admitting driving while he had more than four times the legal limit of alcohol in his blood. He was granted bail pending an appeal.

Correction

The strength of the Metropolitan Police is 22,900, not 23,900 as given in official figures quoted in a report on February 29.

SNP Bill seeks another referendum

By Our Political Staff

A year after the Scottish referendum, the Scottish National Party will move a Bill in the Commons this afternoon to "establish an elected convention in Scotland: to draw up proposals for the government of Scotland by an elected assembly: and to make provision for another referendum".

Historically, 10-minute rule Bills are not destined for the statute book. However, Mr Gordon Wilson, the MP for Dundee, East, and the chairman of the SNP, explained last night that it will be a salutary reminder that theer was a majority of votes for devolution in March last year.

Secondly, Mr Wilson added, "it will be a marker for the future". Not that the elected convention envisaged by Mr Wilson and his colleagues in the SNP would have any executive power. But, as clause 1(3) of the Bill proposes, the first meeting of the convention should be on September 29, 1980.

The Bill is to be known as the Government of Scotland (Scottish Convention) Bill 1980.

Cash limits 'pledge' by banned health authority

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Details were given in the Commons yesterday of the Bill the Government is to introduce to give legal effect to the decisions taken by the commissioners appointed by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, when he suspended the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Area Health Authority for refusing to keep its spending within the required cash limits.

The suspension was declared invalid in the High Court last week.

The proposed legislation, which will be known as the National Health Service (Invalid Direction) Act, 1980, will legalize action taken by the commissioners during the past seven months and give backing to their status until April 1, when members of the area health authority will resume their functions.

Mr Jenkin told the House yesterday that he had decided not to appeal against the judgment of the court and he offered "a full and unqualified apology" for what had taken place.

He told MPs that he had received assurances that the authority would in future stay within cash limits and he reminded the House that a clause in the Health Services Bill, now before Parliament, imposed a statutory duty to this effect on all health authorities.

His discussion with members of the authority on Friday took place and in a helpful and constructive atmosphere, and he had received an assurance that they would accept an obligation to keep spending within the required cash limits.

Provided that was done, the authority, on resuming control, would have freedom of action to review the decisions of the commissioners, including the closure of two hospitals.

From the Labour front bench Mr Stanley Orme, opposition spokesman on health and social security, said that the statement reflected the serious misjudgment made by the Secretary of State.

The advice from within his department was radically wrong, and Mr Orme accused him of acting in a peremptory manner.

Parliamentary report, page 10

Tories expect tough local fight

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Lord Thorneycroft, Conservative Party chairman, warned the media yesterday against saying that the Thatcher Government had collapsed if the Conservatives did not do very well in the local government elections on May 1.

"That would be an exaggeration", he said. "We shall be fighting in one of those sticky-wicket periods. We are under no illusions, and we will be having some very tough contests."

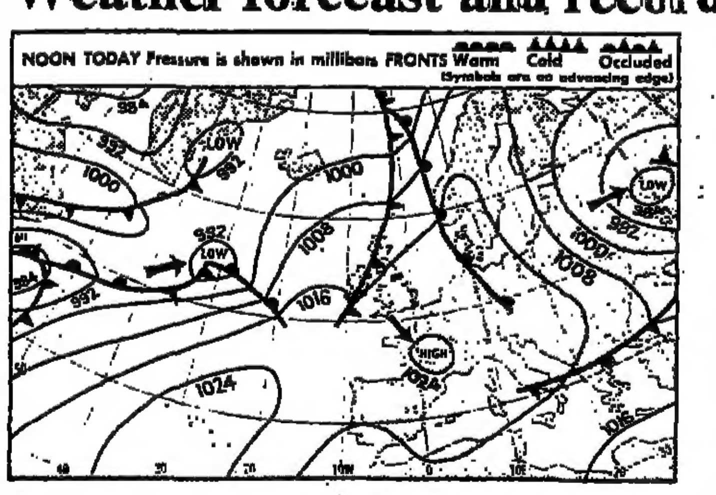
The party was defending seats won when the Labour government was unpopular, so the scene was set rather against the Conservatives.

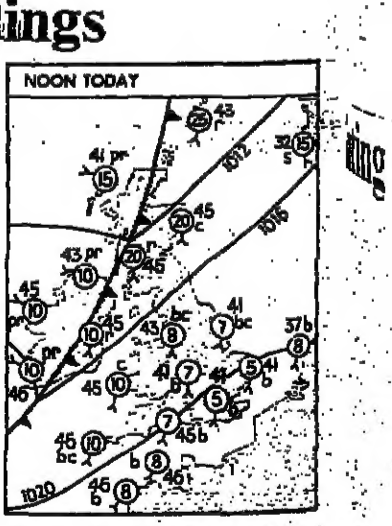
Launching the party's campaign for the district council elections, Lord Thorneycroft said they would be fought against a national background, and the Conservatives would be fighting on the basis that theirs were the only options for the country.

"We will not be fighting on monetarism, or on Friedmanism, which no one understands, but on the advisability of living within one's means", he said. That was understandable to electors, especially where Labour-controlled councils were pushing rates through the roof.

There are no local elections in London, but voting will take place in all 36 districts in the metropolitan areas, in 102 non-metropolitan districts and in all 53 Scottish districts. Labour has a clear chance of substantial gains, and is expected to regain control of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 6.39 am Sun sets: 5.46 pm
Moon sets: 7.50 am Moon rises: 8.33 pm
Last quarter: March 9.

Lighting up: 6.16 pm to 6.7 am. High Water: London Bridge, 3.18 am, 7.1m; 3.38 pm, 7.1m. Avonmouth, 8.43 am, 13.1m; 9.5 pm, 13.0m. Dover, 12.22 am, 6.5m; 12.32 pm, 6.3m. Hull, 7.44 am, 7.1m; 7.44 pm, 7.2m. Liverpool: 12.34 am, 8.9m; 12.45 pm, 9.1m. 1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808 ft

An anticyclone over S Britain will decline as a trough of low pressure crosses N and some W areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

W Midlands, SW, central N England: Sunny intervals, cloudier later, possibly rain tonight; wind S or SW, light to moderate; max temp 8° to 9°C (46° to 48°F).

Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Dry and bright, becoming cloudier, probably occasional rain in late afternoon and evening; wind S, moderate, locally fresh; max temp 8° to 9° C (46° to 48° F).

Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Dry with sunny periods in places, cloudier later with rain in afternoon and evening; wind S, fresh; temp 7° to 8° C (45° to 46° F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, rain spreading from W; wind S, fresh, locally strong; max temp 6° C (43° F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: Dry and bright in most places at first, becoming cloudy with rain, followed by showers, in evening; wind S, fresh to strong, becoming SW, moderate; max temp 8° to 9° C (46° to 48° F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Changeable in most districts but in S only small amounts of rain; temp near normal; local frost.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW, backing SW, light; sea slight or smooth.

Irish Sea: Wind S, moderate, increasing to fresh or strong; sea slight becoming moderate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 8°C (46°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 2°C (36°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 51 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.2 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,024.6 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	15	59	Cardiff	c	5	41	Jersey	c	7	45	Naples	f	13	55
Algiers	f	19	66	Cologne	f	3	37	L Palmas	f	19	66	Nice	f	13	55
Amsterdm	f	5	41	Copenhgn	f	0	32	Lisbon	c	9	48	Oslo	s	1	34
Athens	f	15	59	Dublin	c	6	43	Locarno	s	12	54	Paris	c	5	41
Barcelona	c	12	54	Edinbrgh	f	5	41	London	f	6	43	Reykjavik	d	7	45
Beirut	s	13	55	Florence	c	14	57	Luxembrg	c	3	37	Rome	c	14	57
Belfast	c	5	41	Funchal	f	15	59	Madrid	f	12	54	Ronldsway	c	6	43
Berlin	f	-1	30	Geneva	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Majorca	f	14	57	Stockhlm	f	-1	30
Biarritz	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gibraltar	f	16	61	Malaga	f	17	63	Tel Aviv	f	14	57
Birmghm	f	4	39	Guernsey	c	6	43	Malta	s	16	61	Venice	f	10	50
Bristol	s	7	45	Helsinki	sn	-6	21	Manchstr	s	1	34	Vienna	f	2	36
Brussels	c	8	47	Innsbrck	sn	3	37	Moscow	sn	-3	27	Warsaw	c	-3	27
Budapest	f	4	39	Istanbul	c	8	46	Munich	f	1	34	Zurich	c	2	36

Overseas selling prices

Australia $1.50; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.600; Belgium B frs 30; Canaries Pes 80; Cyprus 560 Mils; Denmark Dkr 4.75; Finland Fmk 4; France Frs 4; Germany Dm 2.50; Greece Dr 40; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran Rials 110; Iraq ID 0.450; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 900; Jordan JD 0.175; Kuwait KD 0.300; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 25; Madeira Esc 35; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 4.50; Norway Kr 5.00; Oman OR 0.040; Pakistan Rps 9.00; Portugal Esc 40; Qatar QR 6.00; Saudi Arabia SR 4.25; Singapore $.15; Spain Pes 75; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland Sfrs 2.70; Syria LS 3.50; Tunisia Din 0.36; USA & Canada $1.50; UAE Dh 6.50; Yugoslavia Din 50.

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HOME NEWS

Fines on couple who ran unregistered home for the elderly

A couple who ran a nursing home where a wealthy spinster died were fined at West London Magistrates' Court yesterday. Wallace Davey and Alice Klouda pleaded guilty to two charges of running an unregistered home.

Mr Davey, aged 48, a nursing assistant, who married Miss Olive St Barbe, aged 93, two months before she died, was fined £300, with £25 costs. Mrs Klouda was fined £500 with £50 costs.

Mrs Anne Evans, the chairman, said: "It is only because the local authorities permitted the situation to exist for some years that I am imposing these penalties. Otherwise they would have been much higher."

The charges were brought by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Miss Cynthia Allen, for the prosecution, said that the home, in FitzJames Avenue, West Kensington, was visited by two council officers. Two people were living there. One was Miss St Barbe, the other was Sir Jack James, a former deputy master of the Royal Mint.

Miss Allen said the home, a flat in a Victorian block of flats, was well furnished but the fees were high. Mr Davey, she said, produced receipts to show that Miss St Barbe was paying £50 a day to Mrs Klouda and £28 a day to himself.

Mr Davey had told the officials he lived at the home but received only small sums of money for this work. He also told them they were unable to see Mrs Klouda because she had had a stroke.

Miss Allen said the home had been required under the 1948 Act to be registered for the purposes of caring for its elderly patients, but it had been unable to do so.

Mr Cyril Newman, for the defence of Mrs Klouda, said the case would never have been taken to court but for adverse publicity in the national press. He added: "It is unfortunate that a prosecution was brought against that type of background. It was well known to the authorities."

Mr Newman said that since the home opened in 1965 it had been regularly inspected by medical officers and health inspectors. "The standards were very high. There is no criticism whatsoever of them." The home was no longer open.

Mr Nigel Shepherd, for Mr Davey, said his client now faced a criminal prosecution and his future was extremely insecure. His job had gone, he had no savings and little means to support himself.

Whitehall brief: Readiness and openness mark county plan for survival in nuclear war

National shelter policy could protect 60% of Britons

By Peter Hennessy

When councillors and local government officers learn about the consequences of a nuclear attack at the Home Office's Home Defence College at Easingwold, near York, the exercises they undergo are based on the fictitious county of "Naptonshire". The map on the wall bears a direct resemblance to Home Defence Sub-Region 31 A, better known as Nottinghamshire.

It is fitting that Nottinghamshire should be used as a model as it is one of a handful of counties that refused to let serious civil defence planning decay after the Wilson Government cut the heart out of Britain's civil defence capability in 1968. Now that the Cabinet of Mrs Margaret Thatcher is in the process of a review that is expected to repair at least part of the damage of a decade of neglect, counties like Nottinghamshire, Wiltshire, Somerset and Devon have acquired new importance as examples for authorities which, lacking any Home Office compulsion, have left their people almost totally unprotected from Soviet attack.

Nottingham has never been cavalier or defeatist about the possibility and the consequences of nuclear war. Well aware that at least one of the 80 two- to five-megaton warheads Easingwold believes could rain on the United Kingdom might

Photograph by Chris Ball

Mr Tinsley (left) and Mr Chambers in the control operations room of the emergency headquarters underneath the county hall, Nottingham.

be earmarked for their county town or the East Midlands airport near by, Nottingham's planners also appreciate that a substantial proportion of their population could survive the initial attack. About 35 million of the United Kingdom's total population of 56 million are likely to survive even if all 80 warheads strike home. How long they would survive depends to a critical extent on good civil defence preparation.

Last week, the county's public protection committee considered extending its civil defence activities to parish council level, with a system of community leaders and emergency committees, along lines suggested by a forcefully-worded paper produced by a conference of emergency planning officers at Easingwold in the autumn. Among the most prominent of Nottinghamshire's civil defence zealots are Mr David Chambers, a Mansfield chiropodist and the country's only Liberal councillor, and Mr Alwyn Tinsley, its emergency planning officer.

Speaking in the county's control operations room beneath thick layers of concrete under the car park of County Hall, its wall charts grimly reflecting a recent exercise in which warheads fell on the Midlands from Oxford to *Lincoln*, they spoke forcefully of the twin themes of readiness and openness, characteristics that carried no weight in Whitehall until Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, commissioned the present review.

Both men emphasized the need for a national shelter policy—there is none at present. Public buildings with suitable facilities should be earmarked, Mr Tinsley said. Mr Chambers wants planning permission for ne whomes to insist on inclusion of a basement shelter.

For years Whitehall refused to allow local authorities to publish the Home Office's *Protect and Survive* pamphlet of advice to householders. So Nottinghamshire has prepared a full publication of *Basic Home Defence Information* of its own.

Public education, according to Mr Tinsley, is the key: "It is still very hard for the public to grasp that 60 per cent of the population would survive nationally, provided precautions are taken to protect them against radiation."

Mr Chambers put it more strongly: "Secrecy is quite inappropriate for publicity on measures that the public can take to protect themselve. Any restriction on that is criminal."

Poison bait on farms 'danger to children'

From Our Correspondent
Luton

Reckless landowners using poison bait to kill vermin could claim a human victim, states a report by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. It calls for a curb on the sale and use of poisons that are also said to be destroying Britain's rare birds.

The society, whose headquarters is at Sandy, Bedfordshire, says children have narrowly escaped death from poisons such as strychnine laid down by farmers and gamekeepers.

One boy, the report says, found an egg laced with poison in a field, took it home and fried it for his dog, which died within minutes.

The report, *Hidden Death*, highlights the threat to domestic animals, including sheepdogs, foxhounds and family pets, as well as wildlife.

Statistics show the devastating effects on rare birds. Between 1966 and 1978 there were 338 known incidents involving the poisoning of 53 species of birds, and six species of mammals.

Buzzards were among the most frequent victims, but at least nine golden eagles, four goshawks, six red kites and a marsh harrier were killed.

The society calls on the Government to withdraw the insecticide Mevinphos from use. It urges that strychnine should be used only by trained pest officers, and that the supply and use of the narcotic alphachloralose should be more strictly controlled.

Although the use of poison baits to kill birds has been illegal in Britain for almost seventy years, some farmers and sporting estate keepers still deliberately poison birds.

The golden eagle, of which there are only about 300 pairs in Britain, may be in decline. Buzzards are being checked from spreading to areas in the Midlands, East Anglia and lowland Scotland.

The society calls for changes in the law so that landowners are held responsible if their employees misuse poisons.

In brief

Tory MP sues newspaper

Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet, East, has started a High Court libel action over a newspaper article which, he claims, has seriously damaged his reputation.

Mr Aitken, aged 37, of Upper Grosvenor Street, Mayfair, London, has issued a writ over a *News of the World* report on February 3 by Dai Llewellyn, son of Colonel Harry Llewellyn. He says the article suggested he consorted with and accepted the hospitality of criminals and was unfit to be an MP.

Head goes bald to raise charity cash

Mr William Hopkins, headmaster at the Maesyrhandir primary school at Newton, Powys, yesterday had his head shaved in full view of his 270 pupils. He is playing the role of the king in the school production this week of *The King and I* and is also hoping to raise money for school funds and leukaemia research. He has been sponsored for £800.

Climbers killed in fall

Two English climbers have been killed in a fall, apparently from a cliff face, on Lochnagar mountain, Grampian. The men's bodies were found early yesterday by a search party in the Raeburn gully.

105th birthday

Mr Charles Wagstaff, who retired 40 years ago as headmaster of King Edward VII School, King's Lynn, Norfolk, celebrated his 105th birthday at a nursing home in Hove, Sussex, yesterday.

Burial mound found

A Bronze Age round barrow, a type of burial mound dating back to about 2,000 BC, has been found at Bowthorpe, Norwich, where three villages are being constructed

Hostel fire

Nearly 270 men had to be evacuated just after midnight yesterday when fire broke out in a Salvation Army hostel in Harrison Street, Ancoats, Manchester.

Half of cars in West End 'parked illegally'

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Parking in central London is "heading for anarchy", according to Westminster City Council. It is urging the Government to take determined action.

Mrs Shirley Porter, chairman of the highways and works committee, said: "The traffic warden strength is so sadly depleted that we calculate that half the cars left on the streets of the West End are parked illegally.

"The situation is getting worse as each day goes by and is bringing the law into total disrepute. The police are doing their best to cover for the lack of wardens but this can only mean that their valuable resources are being taken away from crime prevention.

She said that if the warden service could not fulfil its objective, it was time for the Home Office to take a fresh look at parking enforcement.

A result of the shortage of wardens is that only 110,000 excess parking notices will be issued in Westminster in 1979-80, compared with 246,504 in 1971-72.

Westminster supports the proposal in the working party report to the Greater London Council that fixed penalty fines should be increased to £10, with a discount system to encourage early payment.

The penalty was last increased in 1975 and the council says there is little incentive to park legally, especially for the business motorist, whose time is likely to be more valuable than a £6 ticket.

The council says pay for traffic wardens must be increased to improve recruitment. According to the Civil Service Union, there are only 1,081 wardens in London, compared with an approved strength for the Metropolitan Police area of 1,800.

Lecturers take action over spending cuts

More than 400 further education lecturers employed in colleges in the Wirral education authority began official action yesterday in protest against proposals to change their conditions of service as part of the cuts in education spending.

The lecturers, members of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, are refusing to substitute for absent colleagues. They have been threatened with dismissal.

Councillor denies corrupt deal with a builder

Frank Lofthouse, former chairman of the Lancashire police authority, said at Preston Crown Court yesterday that when he was called to a police interview he thought it was in connexion with the dismissal of Mr Stanley Parr as Chief Constable of Lancashire, and the Osmond report.

He said he had no warning that it was to do with the purchase of his home at Fleetwood Road, Carleton, near Blackpool.

Mr Lofthouse, aged 53, a former schoolmaster, denies making a corrupt deal with Michael Barrett, aged 46, a builder, of Little Poulton Lane, Poulton-le-Fylde, at an allegedly cut price of £8,000 in return for planning favours when he was chairman of Poulton planning committee. He also denies a similar offence with another property company. Mr Barrett denies offering the alleged rewards.

The trial continues today.

MP's Bill aims to protect organ donors' identities

An MP is to introduce a Bill into the Commons tomorrow to protect the anonymity of donors of human organs.

Mr John Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, said yesterday that events surrounding the case of Miss Carol Morris, aged 16, of Houghton on the Hill, Leicestershire, could have frightened off potential donors.

Miss Morris was killed in a road accident near her home and her heart was used in a transplant operation at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge.

Mr Farr said: "Somehow or other the media got to learn that it was a girl's heart which was used and they descended on the family, which was in a state of great shock. They had to have their telephone disconnected and had to leave their house like thieves whenever they went out.

"One of the most improper lengths to which the media went was to pester everyone in the village for photographs. A lot of people felt this was unwarrantable intrusion."

Coroner criticized: Mr Michael Charman, the Leicester coroner who said last week that the removal of human organs for transplant in his area must await his written permission, was criticized yesterday by a kidney transplant patient.

Mr Brian Pearmain, chairman of the National Federation of Kidney Patients' Associations, said that if that became general practice the kidney transplant programme would come to a virtual standstill.

Nuclear leak to pits feared

A miners' union safety engineer said yesterday that miners could be placed in danger by the underground storage of radioactive nuclear waste in the Galloway Hills, in south-west Scotland.

Mr George Montgomery, from the Scottish area headquarters of the National Union of Mineworkers, was giving evidence at a public inquiry at Ayr in support of Kyle and Carrick District Council, which has refused planning permission for the Atomic Energy Authority to drill test bores in the Loch Doon area.

Exploration work had been carried out at Hall of Auchincross, only 12 miles from the proposed test site, and in future coal would be mined there, Mr Montgomery told the inquiry. Existing mines in the Ayrshire coalfield and the Roger mine in Dumfriesshire all lay within 20 miles of the site.

There was no conclusive proof that radioactive waste could not break up and find its way into strata leading to areas being explored for new coal seams, he said.

Fighting ship set to attract tourists

Regional report

John Chartres
Hartlepool

Even the most dedicated advocate of the charms of the North of England would probably agree that the port of Hartlepool is short on tourist attraction. For at least the next five years, however, it will have an unbeatable one in the shape of the 418ft long black and white hull of Warrior, the world's first fully effective ironclad fighting ship, launched in 1860 and rescued from the ignominy of service as a fuel depot pontoon last year.

Although the five-year, £4m to £8m task of restoring her has only just begun she has attracted an important visitor in the person of the Duke of Edinburgh, who is coming to see her on March 19 in his capacity as founder-president of the Maritime Trust, her official owners.

The ship will be open to the public at certain periods from Easter onwards. Volunteer guides are being recruited and she is expected to become a popular visiting place not only for maritime history students but for the whole rapidly growing world of industrial archaeology because of the unusual features of her construction which, among other things, enabled her to serve afloat for 120 years with her hull still "as tight as a bottle".

The director of the Maritime Trust, Vice-Admiral Sir Patrick Bayly, believes that in some ways she is more important historically than either HMS Victory or the Cutty Sark in that she and her sister ship HMS Black Prince (broken up in 1923) altered the course of naval warfare throughout the world.

Although the French began this particular form of arms race by building La Gloire, a wooden two-decker with all-round iron cladding in 1858, rapidly followed by three more similar vessels, Warrior and Black Prince would probably have turned them into colanders if the occasion had ever arisen because of their immense strength and firepower.

Any known enemy shells of the time would almost certainly have bounced off the two British ships with inner and outer layers of iron which sandwiched 18 inches of teak in between.

Although Warrior's hull is as sound as it was on her launching day, a big restoration task lies ahead including the building of the reproduction of her 5,470 horse-power horizontal steam engine with its 10-ton, 23.5 ft two bladed propeller which could be hoisted out of the way with the musclepower of about 400 of her crew when she was moving under sail.

The work has been entrusted to Locomotion Enterprises Limited, a small company which has built working reproductions of the Stephenson's Locomotion and Rocket and other historic railway engines for this year's "sesquicentenary" of the Liverpool-Manchester line.

The Warrior task is bigger than anything it has tackled before but the chairman and engineer extraordinary, Mr David Satow, his managing director, Mr J. N. ("Jumbo") Wilson, and the project manager, Mr Raymond Hocky, a former shipyard manager, are confident that they can do it provided the money continues to flow in. The project has been underwritten by the Manifold Trust, but the Maritime Trust remains responsible for raising as much as it can.

Among the more formidable tasks that lie ahead are the stripping of the concrete layer put on the upper deck during Warrior's 51 years as an oil pontoon hulk at Pembroke dock, its replacement with teak, and then the building of a complete set of masts and rigging.

Warrior served in the days when the Royal Navy did not entirely trust steam and regarded even engines of 104-inch bore and 48-inch stroke in much the same way that the modern yachtsman looks on his outboard. A figurehead is to be made by a specialist firm in the Isle of Wight.

The cost estimate of between £4m and £8m has to be vague because of the unpredictability of inflation and labour costs.

Hartlepool people will not be put out if the five-year estimate has to be exceeded. Eventually, it is planned, she will have a permanent mooring at Portsmouth on display to the world alongside Victory and some nuclear submarines.

It is some compensation locally, however, that Mr Satow, who founded Locomotion Enterprises at Springwell, near Gateshead, largely with the intention of giving interesting and worthwhile work to unemployed young people, intends to use the dockside facilities being created at Hartlepool for the Warrior task as the basis of a permanent national centre of excellence for the restoration of historic machinery.

That is a project in which the people of Hartlepool will take pride.

HOME NEWS

Independent threat to Southend Liberals

From Jan Bradley
Southend

The Liberal Party's hopes of winning the Southend, East, by-election on March 13 received a setback yesterday with the news that an Independent Liberal will be contesting the seat.

Mr James (Mick) Curry, a local travel agent, who fought the constituency in both the 1974 general elections, said that he was standing as an "old-fashioned Liberal" because the party had lost its identity with talk of coalitions and a new centre party.

Other Liberals in the town had expressed their support for him, Mr Curry said. He is no longer a member of the party. "I have not changed my Liberal views, but the Liberal Party has", he said.

The official Liberals who have been predicting that the seat could become another Orpington, are angry at Mr Curry's intervention.

Mr Peter Chegwyn, the Liberal agent, said yesterday that he had reason to believe that the Conservatives were behind Mr Curry's candidacy.

When it became clear over the weekend that Mr Curry was planning to stand, local Liberals tried to dissuade him. On Sunday afternoon Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edgehill, and campaign manager for the by-election, obtained an assurance that he would not be standing.

Mr Curry admitted that he told Mr Alton he would not be standing, but said: "I did it to get the Liberal Party off my back". He denied that he had been put up to standing by the Conservatives.

It is unlikely that Mr Curry's intervention will have a big impact on the result of the by-election.

The list of candidates when nominations closed yesterday afternoon was: Mr Edward (Teddy) Taylor Conservative); Mr Colin George (Labour); Mr David Evans (Liberal); Cmdr William Boaks (Public Safety, Democratic Monarchist, White Resident); Mr James Curry (Independent Liberal); Mr Terence Robertson (New Britain); Mr Oliver Smedley (Anti-Common Market and Free Trade Party).

Our Political Staff writes

Mr Taylor, the former Tory minister, said in a speech in Southend yesterday that a vote for Labour would be a vote for the militant left.

Citing Mr Frank Chapple, of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, Mr Taylor said that the TUC man had given warning that Labour's national executive was "turning a Nelson's eye to Trotskyite entryism."

Mr Taylor said there was further proof of the frightening tactics of the extreme left in the takeover of Mr Roy Mason's Barnsley constituency party.

He challenged his Labour opponent to dissociate himself utterly "from the tactics of the Scargill clique."

General election, May, 1979: McAdden (C) 22,413; Wright (Lab) 11,639; Hugill (L) 5,244; Twomey (Nat Front) 676; majority 10,774.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

A view of the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition at Earls Court, London, which the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited yesterday. It continues until March 29.

Art rumpus man says any fault not his

By Geraldine Norman

Eric Hebborn, the man at the centre of the art market rumpus over fake Old Master drawings, shrugged off the affair yesterday, pointing out that he had never taken responsibility for attributions on drawings he sold.

About twenty drawings sold by Sotheby's, Christie's and the London dealers, Colnaghi's and Hans Calmann, as genuine Old Masters came from Hebborn and are now suspected by experts of being modern fakes.

"A drawing is a drawing is a drawing", Mr Hebborn said yesterday. "I sold the drawings as drawings, without any certain attribution. Even if I had made them myself there would be nothing wrong—they would still be drawings".

Mr Hebborn was unwilling to go into detail on where the drawings came from, except to say that many came from a German collector with whom he frequently exchanges drawings.

"It does not matter where they come from", he said, "and if I go into it I shall only be putting other people into the same sort of embarrassing position that London dealers have put me into now".

Professor Blunt's statement: Professor Anthony Blunt said yesterday that he was "certain" he was not involved in the authentication of an Old Master drawing sold with full catalogue attribution by Christie's in 1968 but now thought to be a fake (the Press Association reports).

He was also "pretty certain" he was not involved with another "Old Master" which is now a suspected fake.

Dublin minister seeks Ulster talks response

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Dublin Government is about to embark on a concerted drive to persuade Britain to enter into a dialogue to find a lasting solution to the Northern Ireland crisis.

The first attempt will be made at the Foreign Office in London today when Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Foreign Minister, formally meets Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, for the first time.

That will be followed next month by talks in Dublin between Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and Mr Lenihan, when the British Government will get a full exposition of how the Irish Republic views the Northern Ireland scene since Mr Charles Haughey became Prime Minister in December.

In addition an early meeting is to be fixed between Mr Haughey and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Today's meeting is primarily about European matters, including the EEC budget, East-West relations since the Afghanistan invasion, and the Middle East. But Dublin sources say Mr Lenihan will seek a response from Lord Carrington to Mr Haughey's call for Dublin-Westminster talks.

Protocol, however, ensures that Lord Carrington will divert any detailed discussions on Ulster, since that is the bailiwick of Mr Atkins.

By the time Mr Atkins meets Mr Lenihan next month the Ulster constitutional conference at Stormont could be drawing to a close.

An informal time scale for legislation on power devolution to Northern Ireland is slowly emerging, now that hopes of enacting a Bill this year have been wiped out by the long duration of the Stormont talks. Nothing is finalized, but November is being privately suggested as a possible date for a devolution Bill to enter the Commons.

For the present, however, the conference is still moving through a 14 point agenda and yesterday's session was devoted first to the role of committees.

The Democratic Unionists then presented without discussion their proposals on the role of the minority in a devolution exercise, the rights of appeal against assembly decisions, overriding powers over the assembly, and a Bill of Rights.

The DUP's ideas will be questioned today by the other two participating parties, but sources last night indicated that the proposals strayed little from the old pre-1974 Stormont model and would be totally unacceptable to Catholic leaders.

A pinstripe picket at the Queen's robe makers

As employees of the Queen's robe makers struck yesterday, for the first time in almost 300 years, a trade union official gave a warning that university degree ceremonies might soon be affected.

Members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs employed by Ede and Ravenscroft at Chancery Lane, London, and Leatherhead, Surrey, downed tools for the day in their battle to gain trade union recognition.

One of the firm's main activities is supplying gowns for degree ceremonies, and Mr James Terry, an ASTMS divisional officer, said: "If we do not resolve this dispute, further action could affect such ceremonies throughout the country."

Many of the pickets at Chancery Lane wore the traditional "service" uniform of black jacket and pinstripe trousers. Employees have served up to 27 years with the company.

The union complains that the management has rejected offers by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service to help to resolve the dispute.

ASTMS claims 29 members out of a staff of more than 50 and Mr Terry said that some non-union members had refused to cross the picket line yesterday.

A company official described the strike as "a storm in a teacup", but would make no other comment.

Ede and Ravenscroft was established in the reign of William and Mary in 1689, and this is the first strike in the company's 291 years of making wigs and robes. It holds three royal warrants as robe makers to the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

It supplies to the legal profession and counts among its clients Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor.

The ASTMS slogan for the day was: "Founded in the reign of William and Mary 1689; industrial relations circa William and Mary: when will the twentieth century arrive?"

Under a gentlemanly truce early in the afternoon the pinstriped pickets left for home and those in the shop did likewise, pinning a notice in the door explaining that they were closing early, "due to bus strike".

Irish Primate pays return visit to Maze prison

Cardinal Tomás O Fiaich, the Primate of All Ireland, yesterday paid an official visit to the "H" blocks of the Maze Prison outside Belfast, where 370 prisoners are campaigning for the return of political status.

The Primate, who was accompanied by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Derry, the Most Rev Dr Edward Daly, last visited the prison in July, 1978, when he was Archbishop of Armagh.

After that visit he said the prisoners reminded him of "the spectacle of hundreds of homeless people living in sewer pipes in the slums of Calcutta". His statement caused much embarrassment to the British authorities in the province.

IRA shooting claim: The IRA claimed responsibility yesterday for the shooting on Saturday of a British soldier in Münster, West Germany. A spokesman said: "We warn all British soldiers and administrators that there will be no sanctuary from their war of repression in Ireland."

Corporal Stewart Leach remained in a critical condition yesterday in a British military hospital. He was shot twice when gunmen fired on his patrol car.

Boy badly injured: A boy aged nine was seriously ill in a Belfast hospital yesterday with head injuries believed to have been caused by a rubber bullet fired by troops.

The boy was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital after a running street battle between security forces and several hundred youngsters who broke away from a Provisional Sinn Fein rally. Seven members of the security services were injured.

Jail units 'offended against human rights convention'

By Annabel Ferriman

The prison control units introduced by the Home Office in 1974 offended against the Prison Act, 1952, the Bill of Rights of 1689 and the European Convention on Human Rights, the High Court was told yesterday.

Mr Stephen Sedley, counsel for Mr Michael Williams, who is suing the Home Office over his detention in a control unit at Wakefield prison, said that the units violated the prison rules laid down under the Prison Act.

Rule 28 laid down that prisoners should be allowed to work in association with others and Rule 43 stated that any prisoner put into solitary confinement should have his position reviewed each month by the Secretary of State, he said.

Under the control unit system, prisoners were not allowed to mix with others for work and were put in solitary confinement for one period of 90 days and restricted association for a second 90-day period.

He added: "By fixing the term in advance as 180 days, the regime commits the Secretary of State to renew without genuine reconsideration".

Mr Sedley said that the treatment constituted "cruel and unusual punishment" and as such went against the Bill of Rights, 1689. The Home Secretary could not contravene that, despite its antiquity, unless expressly authorized by a later statute.

The units offended against the European Convention on Human Rights because article three said that no one should be subjected to inhuman and degrading punishment.

Mr Williams, aged 39, whose case is backed by the National Council for Civil Liberties is seeking a declaration that his detention was unlawful, and is also claiming damages for false imprisonment.

The hearing continues today.

Hillingdon wins right to appeal in race case

The London borough of Hillingdon was given leave in the High Court yesterday to challenge the legality of a proposed investigation into its housing practices by the Commission for Racial Equality. The council is to seek court orders which would prevent the investigation going ahead.

Mr Lionel Read, QC, for the council, told the Queen's Bench Divisional Court that the main cause of complaint to the CRE related to the conduct of the housing committee chairman.

The bulk of the papers in the case concerned the public pronouncements of that councillor. Yet the CRE was proposing to investigate the conduct of the council and its officers generally.

The CRE was not represented at yesterday's hearing but said later that it would be fighting the council's move.

Fight for right of mentally handicapped to vote

From Our Correspondent
Southport

The National Association for Mental Health yesterday began formal proceedings to secure the right to vote for 45,000 mentally handicapped hospital patients.

Mr Lawrence Gostin, the legal director of the association, said that although he would be arguing on points of law, it was a moral disgrace that the law "should be open to the interpretation by some that these patients are not entitled to vote".

Mr Gosin, a barrister, said: "The Government should introduce new laws which would make it perfectly clear to everybody that mental patients, whether they are resident in hospital or not, should have the vote."

The first step in the legal battle will be a formal hearing before Mr Michael Jackson, the Ribble Valley's electoral registration officer, who has refused to register more than 600 patients at Calderstones Hospital, near Blackburn, east Lancashire.

The issue will become a test case which is likely to affect the voting rights of all adults in mental handicap hospitals throughout Britain

Mr Jackson says that the law stipulates that mentally disordered hospital patients cannot be treated as being registered at the hospital for electoral purposes and that mental handicap is a form of mental disorder.

But Mr Gostin disputes his interpretation. "I shall be arguing that the patients are not suffering from a disorder which requires treatment in hospital. If Mr Jackson does not concede the point at the hearing, I shall apply to the county court."

Suspension of doctor

A doctor who was given a suspended prison sentence for obtaining drugs by deception was ordered yesterday to be suspended from the General Medical Register for 12 months. He has 28 days in which to appeal.

Noel Patrick Burns, aged 52, was said at a General Medical Council hearing in London to have obtained quantities of the painkiller, Fortral, and drugs for high blood pressure for his own use by making out prescriptions to himself.

Dr Burns, who practised at Balfour Road, Acton, London, was convicted at Tottenham magistrates' court, London, in April, 1978, of three charges of dishonestly obtaining drugs by deception and asked for 26 similar offences to be considered. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment on each charge, suspended for two years, and fined £150.

Athletes willing to boycott Moscow parade

Continued from page 1

financially sound organization. Mr Johnson said it already had sufficient funds to send a team of 50 to Moscow and, if necessary, would appeal to the public for more. The club would have the support of the majority of potential Olympic athletes although some of the more likely medal winners have not signed the letter.

Mr David Bedford, the chairman, said that Mr Steve Ovett "does not sign anything"; Mr Sebastian Coe and Daley Thompson were abroad; and Mr Geoffrey Capes preferred not to sign because he was a policeman.

Among those who declined to sign, several still objected to the pressure placed upon them. Mr Mike Winch said he agreed with the club's general views, but added: "It is a mistake to take unilateral action, as the Americans are now finding.

"If any action is taken it should be by the west European countries as a whole.

"We are not politicians but individual athletes who in our society can make our own individual decisions. Surely that is the point about not being pressurized by Thatcher *et al.*"

According to Mr Johnson, an Anglo-American boycott would effectively end the Olympic movement. He said that any "wrecking action" could result in athletics leaving the Olympics altogether.

The sport was already in the throes of deciding whether to go "open" (professionals and amateurs competing together). Other sports should consider the consequences of athletics not being part of the Games.

He said the question of whether the IOC was right to give the Games to Moscow in the first place and the proposed boycott because of the Soviet Union's action in Afghanistan were separate.

The original decision was taken in the light of awkward alternative sites. The request for a boycott was, he said, "an attempt to get to the minds of Soviet citizens", but he felt it was incongruous that Mrs Thatcher should hold these views while making cuts in the BBC's service.

The club has sent a letter to Lord Killanin, president of the International Olympic Committee, explaining its situation and requesting authority to form a team for Moscow if a boycott is ordered.

The athletes who signed affirmation said: "We are prepared, under explicit instruction of the BAAB, to refuse to take part in the opening and closing ceremonies and, in the event that we are recipients of medals, to leave the rostrum immediately after presentation and before the National Anthems are played".

Bernard Levin, page 12

Rest from duty for canon after court case

From Our Correspondent
Chichester

A joint statement yesterday by the Bishop of Chichester and the Dean of Chichester Cathedral said that Canon Keith Walker, the cathedral's precentor, would not be carrying out his cathedral and diocesan duties for the time being.

Canon Walker, aged 46, was fined £40 at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, last month after pleading guilty to committing an indecent act to the annoyance of other people in the Peter Robinson Store in Oxford Circus.

WEST EUROPE

Amsterdam rioting spreads as police clear out barricades

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam, March 3

Rioting spread to various parts of Amsterdam toda after police swept away barricades, erected by squtters, in the Vondel Park area.

Attempts by the police last Friday to prevent squatters from moving into a house near the park ended in the worst riots Amsterdam has seen in 10 years.

Today 1,100 civil and military police, using tanks and armoured vehicles, swept away the barricades.

Mr Wim Polak, the Burgomaster of Amsterdam, said this afternoon that excessive force had been used in order to contain the situation and limit casualties. Only minor injuries were reported and Mr Polak said everything had gone according to plan.

The police operation began at dawn when a helicopter dropped leaflets in the Vondel Park area warning people to remain indoors. The leaflet stated tsat police action was not directed against the squatters.

The sole aim was to remove the barricades. But the letflet said that if there was resistance, firearms would be used as a last resort.

The decision to go ahead with clearing the barricades was taken after the squatters had furiously rejected an ultimatum from the municipality requesting assurances that they would not oppose clearance of the barricades.

By 9 am, the city services had taken over from the police and were clearing away what remained of the barricades and repairing the ravaged streets.

Mr Polak said the squatters had avoided a confrontation with the police. Most of the trouble had come from others, mainly youngsters, looking for trouble. This resulted in clashes with the police in other parts of Amsterdam. Thirty-seven policemen and six civilians were treated for injuries.

After midday the situation had quietened down, but remained tense.

Squatter organizations throughout the Netherlands have planned a big demonstration tonight. It is due to take place in Dam Square, central Amsterdam. The 1,100-strong police force is standing by.

The demonstrators plan to march through Amsterdam, past various premises occupied by squatters, ending their march at Museum Square, near Vondel Park.

Mr Polak said he hoped to defuse the situation by inviting squatters' groups for talks with the city authorities. He added that squatters had not responded to an earlier invitatio nfor talks.

Apart from the squatters, the Amsterdam authorities face trouble from trade unionists. Unions have called for protests tomorrow against a government Bill seeking a wages freeze. The Bill is to be debated by Parliament tomorrow.

New book alleges that Pompidou plotted the general's downfall

De Gaulle's faux pas

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 3

General de Gaulle's fall from power started from the moment on July, 24 1967 when from the balcony of Montreal city hall he shouted to a wildly enthusiastic crowd: "*Vive le Quebec libre*".

This is the contention of a new and detailed book on the last years of the general, a book which sets out to prove that Georges Pompidou, his loyal friend for a quarter of a century and his prime minister for six and a half years, in fact plotted his downfall.

The suggestion was, naturally enough, immediately repudiated by Mme Claude Pompidou, the president's widow, as well as by M. Edouard Balladur, his close friend and collaborator. Nevertheless the wealth of detail and research in the 487-page book give weight to the argument.

The book by Anne and Pierre Rouanet, a husband and wife team, is called *Les Trois Chagrins du General de Gaulle*, and is published by Editions Grasset. The three *chagrins* are described as his cry at Quebec, the riots of May 1968, and the lost referendum of 1969. But the underlying theme of the book is that his biggest chagrin of all was Pompidou.

The authors have discovered that the shout which shook Canada, Britain and France in Montreal was in no way the spontaneous affair that many — including Pompidou — had thought. It had, in fact been carefully thought out.

They show how, the general had decided well before his visit that France had a duty to make amends to the French Canadians for the decision of Louis XV to abandon them to the English. "*I could no longer have been De Gaulle if I had not done that*", he confided on the aircraft bringing him home to France after the visit.

But to his prime minister this undiplomatic shout was proof that General De Gaulle, who was aged 77, was failing in his powers and it was from then, the book says, that he began to work to bring about his own election to France's highest office.

Pompidou's belief in his chief's failing powers was further strengthened, again according to the book, by the general's brief "disappearance" at the height of the disturbances in May, 1968.

As a sidelight, too, on the jostling for power at the top, the book recalls that on the very day when two Gaullist deputies went to Pompidou to tell him it was time "to put the old boy in the cupboard" a young president of the Federation of Independent Republicans called Valery Giscard d'Estaing wrote to the general offering his services as a prime minister of national unity.

A further name from the future enters the book in describing the events surrounding the general's decision not to devalue the franc in November 1968. It was on the advice of the vice-president of the European Commission, an academic unknown in political circles called Raymond Barre, that the decision was made.

The book traces, nevertheless, the less than happy economic period for France during this period, with Maurice Couve de Murville as Prime Minister, a situation which further reflected on the image of the general. As speculation mounted Pompidou announced to the press in Rome—as an apparently deliberate aside at the end of an interview on Franco-Italian relationships—that he would certainly stand for the presidency were the general to stand down.

Finally the general allowed himself to be caught in the trap of a referendum on reform of the Senate and regionalization. They were minor matters for a great statesman to stake his career on and when the general lost it was rumoured that he had committed political suicide.

The book disagrees. Three days before the vote it quotes him as saying: "We are going to lose . . . a pity for France." And later he told his son that a true statesman: "is someone who is capable of taking risks."

In an interview with the magazine *Le Point*, Mme Pompidou described the theme of the book as "a comedy". It was the first time she had given an interview on the relations between her husband and the general, but she said she had done so on this occasion to defend her husband's memory.

To prove her point she has produced the letter written to her husband by the general three days after he resigned on losing the referendum in which he said categorically: "I approve your candidature."

The book ends on a quotation by Stendahl: "A hundred years after his death, the greatest happiness that can happen to a great man, is to have enemies." It is not entirely clear whether that is most applicable to the general or to his successor.

Punters sue players who won matches

From John Earle
Rome, March 3

The scandals which have been succeeding each other with increasing frequency in Italian public and business life have reached the football fields. The Rome public prosecutor today began examining accusations laid by a lawyer against 27 players from 12 first and second division teams for allegedly taking money to manipulate the results of matches.

The lawyer was acting on behalf of a group of nearly 30 punters, who maintain they used to pay the players to ensure that their teams would lose league matches. Secure in this knowledge, they would then place substantial sums with clandestine betting shops.

The flaw was that this scheme apparently miscarried repeatedly. At a certain point the punters' losses became so heavy that their indignation boiled over and they went to a lawyer to bring their case into the open.

The identity of the punters has not been disclosed, though there is speculation that one owns a restaurant in a picturesque part of Rome and another is a greengrocer. The players, however, have been identified and some of the best known names in Italian football are included in the allegations. Those who have so far commented have denied any involvement.

The affair has temporarily diverted attention from last week's scandal, which focused on Signor Franco Evangelisti, the Minister of Merchant Marine, who was reported to have admitted taking money from the Caltagirone brothers, three Roman builders.

The brothers who, according to a magistrate, owe about 160,000m lire (about £90m) to the central institute of savings banks Italcasse, went abroad before arrest warrants were issued last month in connexion with the insolvency of 29 companies personally owned by them.

The affair threatens to have political repercussions as Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, is to answer parliamentary questions on Friday.

Signor Evangelisti, while admitting taking cheques from the eldest Caltagirone, says the money was spent on his election campaigns and on the Andreotti faction of the Christian Democrats.

In another scandal last week, a Christian Democratic former junior minister and head of the Naples port authority was imprisoned in Naples in connexion with the failure of an insurance company of which he was a board member.

That, however, is of local interest, compared with the international implications of an inquiry now near its end into a commission of nearly \$114m (£51.8m) allegedly paid on an agreement on 12,500,000 tonnes of oil between Petromin of Saudi Arabia and the Italian state corporation ENI. Saudi Arabia has suspended direct oil supplies to Italy

Football bribes, page 16

'Scientologists' ex-leader wins appeal

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 3

The French Court of Appeal has discharged M Georges Andreu, former president of the Church of Scientology in France, who was given a one-year suspended prison sentence and fined 3,000 francs (£320) for fraud in December, 1978.

The case was brought to appeal by Mr Tran Ngoc Dan, who had been granted only one franc damages by the lower court when he asked for compensation for the fraud.

The Appeal Court found that several of the issues had taken place before M Andreu became president in 1972, and that even in that position he was carrying out orders on behalf of his superiors. It noted that he was extremely young (he is now only 29) when he became president and said that his personal sincerity had never been in doubt.

The President of the court made it clear that M Andreu's discharge did not alter the lower court's judgment concerning three other scientologists who had been judged in their absence and for whose arrest warrants had been issued.

Human rights pledge by scientists

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 3.

Exhausted scientists and diplomats at the two-week East-West "scientific forum" in Hamburg finally produced a closing document in the early hours of today. It declared that respect for human rights and freedom was one of the bases of international scientific co-operation.

The document was the result of a tussle lasting three days and nights between delegates from 35 Helsinki security conference countries who took part in the forum.

The recent banishment of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel prize-winning scientist from Moscow to Gorkiy, and imprisonment of other Soviet scientists had turned human rights into a burning issue at the forum.

Delegates, who got on well when discussing scientific subjects, fell into heated disputes over such issues as the right of scientists—implying Communist block scientists—to freedom of movement, freedom of expression and inquiry.

At the start of the conference, Western delegates protested strongly about the treatment of Dr Sakharov and his colleagues, and about restrictions on the movements of Soviet scientists. In turn the chief Soviet delegate, Professor Nikolai Blokhin, protested vehemently against the Western delegates interfering in Soviet internal affairs.

Later disputes over the text meant that the conference, which was due to end on Saturday, dragged on until near dawn today.

The delegates finally approved a text which declared that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms by all states represented one of the foundations for a significant improvement of their mutual relations and of international scientific cooperation at all levels.

Improved cooperation could only be achieved if the principles and requirements of the Helsinki conference were respected. The text called on all participating countries to apply these principles both in the spirit and the letter.

The text advocated seminars for all scientists on the latest scientific methods.

The scientists also recommended that their respective governments agree to hold a second scientific forum.

It was the first "Helsinki" conference which had involved ordinary citizens rather than government representatives. One result was that the language used was often forthright and highly undiplomatic.

Delegates from neutral countries were among the most passionate protesters against the Soviet Union. One Western delegate argued in favour of restrictions on movement, while others, to the amusement of professional diplomats, would take Soviet colleagues aside and try and convert them to their views. East European delegates gave the Russians only scant support.

However, some diplomatic discipline prevailed: the Soviet delegation sat out all the protests and the Western delegations refrained from boycotting the forum. It was clear that despite strong feelings no one wanted to jeopardize the prospects of the Helsinki follow-up conference in Madrid in November.

WEST EUROPE

Terms for 'lamb war' truce not likely to satisfy Mr Walker

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 3

The terms of a possible truce in the EEC's "lamb war" were being discussed here tonight by agriculture ministers of the Nine, but they seemed unlikely to satisfy the stiff conditions set by Mr Peter Walker, Britain's Agriculture Minister.

The plan, based on a proposal by the European Commission, would require the French to open their frontiers to British lamb imports in return for subsidies paid out of EEC funds to compensate French sheep farmers for any resulting loss o fincome.

Other member states would also be entitled to "fair" shares of these subsidies for their sheep farmers. This aid, amounting to a total of about £20m, would be available until mid-July, by which time the Commission hopes that permanent arrangements for the lamb market will have been agreed.

Mr Walker told his EEC colleagues that he could only agree to the scheme if it met three conditions. First, the scheme must end in July, and mutton and lamb must continue to be traded freely in the EEC therteaafter, even if in the meantime no agreement has been reached on a common organization of the sheepmeat market.

Second, the scheme must not include any "intervention" buying and storage of lamb. Third, the share-out of subsidies must be related to member states' shares of total EEC lamb production.

On this reckoning, British sheep farmers, who account for half of total EEC output, would get £10m. Since Britain would pay about £4m to the cost of the scheme, it would thus emerge with a net gain of some £6m.

These conditions were hardly calculated to appeal to the rest of the EEC. The French insisted that any interim arrangements must include an element of price support, which would involve the EEC in buying up lamb when market prices fell below a minimum level.

M Pierre Mehaignerie, the French minister, also made clear that he was not prepared to open French frontiers to cheap lamb imports per- without some assurance that French sheep farmers would be protected.

It appeared, from tehese exchanges, that there is no hope of solving the lamb dispute except in the context of a wider settlement involving Britain's budget claims and the fixing of this year's EEC farm prices, probably at the next summit meeting in Brussels on March 31 and April 1.

EEC offers aid for steel retirements

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 3

The possibility of EEC aid to finance early retirement for steel workers was discussed in Brussels today between Mr Henk Vredeling, the Commissioner for Social Affairs, and senior executives of the British Steel Corporation.

Mr Robert Scholey, the corporation's chief executive, also gave Mr Vredeling additional information about its rationalization plans which are intended to lead to the shedding of 52,000 jobs by August.

Mr Vredeling will meet Mr Adam Butler, Junior Minister at the Department of Industry, in Brussels tomorrow for further discussion of the steel plant closures. He will visit London on Friday for talks with Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, and Mr James Prior, Secretary for Employment.

Mr Vredeling has criticized the scope and speed of these planned redundancies as being unnecessarily draconian, and has urged Britain, together with other member states, to support a proposal by the Commission for EEC-financed work-sharing schemes.

This proposal, conceived by Mr Vredeling, envisages the expenditure of some £62m (at current exchange rates) over three years to finance a shorter working week, a reorganization of shifts, early retirement, a reduction in systematic overtime

The aim would be to enable governments to stagger redundancies over a longer period and thus reduce the social impact of job losses and give more time to set up retraining schemes.

About £20m would be available during the first year, and of this, Britain might qualify for a third given the size of its steel problem. A condition of the grant, however, would be that the Government would put up a matching amount of money.

This scheme was first proposed by the Commission as long ago as last May, but has so far failed to win the approval of member states, including Britain which, with West Germany, has been particularly opposed to the work-sharing idea.

During a visit to the Commission at the end of last month, Mr Scholey expressed interest in EEC aid for early retirement. He said that retirement at 50 would account for 70 per cent of the Steel Corporation's planned redundancies in South Wales. However, he did not like the other elements in the Commission's proposal.

Commission officials were at pains to explain to Mr Scholey today that their proposals simply enumerated a range of possible work-sharing schemes, and member states, if they approved the proposal, would not be obliged to implement all of them.

University drops check on identities

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 3

The University of Paris VIII at Vincennes has dropped its plans to check all students' identities as they entered the campus within hours of trying to bring in the control. The university council withdrew the order, made as part of a plan to cut down on drug dealing, after a meeting lasting five and half hours, which was frequently interrupted by groups of students.

At the same time the council announced that it intended to call on police to deal with any individuals caught red-handed dealing in drugs.

M Pierre Merlin, the university president, had a rought handling from students after he left the meeting and had to rely on a group of his supporters to force a way through the crowd for him to his car.

Ending the control of students entering the campus merely acknowledged the fact that this was beyond the competence of the authorities.

Turks in Paris street protest

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 3

More than a thousand illegal Turkish immigrants took to the streets of Paris today, defying arrest in a another attempt to force official recognition of their claim for the right to stay legally in France.

Their banners explained their argument: "We have won through our work the right to work permits" and "We do not want to be treated like slaves and live hidden in the sums."

It is estimated that there are 30,000 Turkish workers in the ready-to-wear trade in Paris, stitching together clothes which sell at anything up to 40 times the amount they are paid to make them.

Today's protest was spearheaded by a hunger strike begun 22 days ago by a group of the illegal immigrants. One of them was taken to hospital today, because his condition had begun to deteriorate.

M Lionel Stoleru, the junior Minister for Labour, has started a study group on the problem

Britain resumes campaign over Brussels deficit

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 3

Britain's campaign to recoup its EEC budget deficit of more than £1,000m was resumed here today at European Commission headquarters by a team of British officials led by Mr Michael Franklin of the Cabinet Office.

The main purpose of the visit was to identify areas for extra EEC expenditure in Britain, which would help to raise the low level of British receipts from the community spent on agriculture.

As a percentage of the national work force, Britain's farmers are relatively less numerous than anywhere else in the EEC, and the British benefit from agricultural expenditure is correspondingly small.

Among the areas of possible new EEC expenditure in Britain discussed today were transport, public utilities, coal, urban renewal and other social and economic development schemes.

Last month the Cimmission published a paper suggesting that expenditure of this type could be channelled direct to Britain through a special credit line in the budget.

There will be more meetings between British and Commission officials in preparation for the next EEC summit meeting on March 31 and April 1, at which the budget dispute will again be the main topic of debate.

However, France's determination to link any further concessions to Britain on the budget—beyond the £350m cash refund offered informally last November in Dublin—to counter concessions on such matters as lamb, fisheries and farm prices has made the prospects of settlement more remote than ever.

Provisional estimates by the Commission, which art expected to be endorsed soon by the British Treasury White Paper on public spending, indicate that the gapb etween British payments to and receipts from the EEC budget will be even bigger this year than originally forecast.

OVERSEAS

Kuwait ready to sell oil direct to France

From Charles Hargrove
Bahrain, March 3

The French Government made a concession to the Arab standpoint on the Middle East conflict today by insisting for the first time in an official communiqué on the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

The term occurs in the final communiqué issued at the close of two days of talks between the French delegation led by President Giscard d'Estaing, and Kuwaiti officials led by the Emir Shaikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah.

The talks covered the whole range of international issues including Afghanistan and the security of the Gulf, and led to agreements on oil supplies to France and on joint industrial ventures.

The final communiqué states that both sides expressed "their conviction that the Palestinian problem is not a problem of refugees, but that of a people which must dispose of the right of self-determination within the framework of a just and durable peace".

Hitherto the French Government has always referred to the legitimate rights of the Palestinians to a homeland. The Elysée spokesman explained that the new formulation must be judged on the basis of the well-known French position on the Arab-Israeli conflict. This he defined as the withdrawal of Israel from all territories occupied in 1967, the right of all the states in the region to safe, recognized and guaranteed frontiers, and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

Self-determination for the Palestinians is the term commonly used by the Arab countries. The difference between the French and the Arab point of view, however, was that France recognized the existence of the state of Israel and its right to live within safe and recognized frontiers.

The spokesman emphasized that this self-determination could only be exercised given a "durable and global settlement" in the Middle East.

The agreements on oil supplies and industrial cooperation consisted of an exchange of letters between M André Giraud, the Minister for Industry, and Kuwait ministers. They were described by the Elysée spokesman as "a new form of cooperation between an industrialized country which imports its energy and an oil producing country".

They will give the two French national oil companies, the Compagnie Française des Pétroles and Elf-Aquitaine, the possibility of purchasing oil direct from the Kuwait National Oil Company at current market prices instead of through international oil imported 14,400,000 tons of oil companies as hitherto.

President Giscard d'Estaing listens to Bahrain's national anthem with the Emir of Bahrain

Israel Cabinet stands by settlement policy

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 3

A defiant reaffirmation of the Israeli Government's determination to continue Jewish settlements in the occupied territories is expected tomorrow, when the Cabinet meets to discuss two key aspects of its controversial policy.

At the top of the agenda will be a decision on how—if at all—it intends to implement last month's decision to support the principle of Jewish settlement in the centre of Hebron, the second-largest Arab town on the West Bank.

Jewish extremists are demanding to be allowed to move into a number of properties in an exclusively Arab area.

Ministers will also be preparing a formal response to last Saturday's United Nations Security Council resolution calling for the dismantling of all settlements in occupied territories, including the modern suburbs which now ring much of East Jerusalem. The resolution has caused particular concern because it had the full backing of the American Government.

Although building Jewish settlements in the occupied territories started after the 1967 war, it has become a subject of growing international controversy since Mr Menachem Begin became Prime Minister in 1977. His right-wing coalition Government claims stridently that what it calls Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) is part of the Biblical land of Israel.

Precise statistics about settlements are difficult to acquire because the Government is not always anxious to disclose the extent of its activities and because of the complexity of land ownership in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

These are always referred to by the Begin Government as "the administered territories".

However, a close reading of last week's budget proposals revealed that despite much publicized financial stringency, upwards of £100m had been earmarked for spending on settlements in the occupied territories in 1980.

The budget showed that the Agriculture Ministry's expenditure on building in the territories was up by 15 per cent in real terms from the 1979 figure. Altogether the number of settlements on land seized from Arabs stood at 113, excluding such urban centres as Kiryat Arba, the largest West Bank settlement, which now houses more than 3,000 Jews on the outskirts of Hebron.

The budget showed that in 1979, the total population in the non-urban Jewish settlements was 12,700, an increase of 2,400 on the previous year.

Since last October the Government has been under strong pressure from extremist Jewish groups, like Gush Emunim, to extend annexation to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The pressure increased after a Supreme Court ruling that a Jewish settlement at Eilon Moreh had been illegally established on privately-owned Arab land.

The court hearing was the ninth at which Arab landowners had appealed against expropriation of their land to Israel's highest court, and the first at which they won judicial support.

OVERSEAS

Senator Kennedy hard put to maintain support in own state

From David Cross
Boston, Massachusetts, March 3

Nothing seems to go right for Senator Edward Kennedy these days. When he travelled to Florida at the end of last week, to be told by his campaign organizers that he faces a humiliating defeat there at the hands of President Carter in next week's primary, he even managed to catch a rotten cold.

But when he came north yesterday to his native Massachusetts, he shook off any discomfort he felt, to plunge into two final days of hard campaigning for tomorrow's crucial primary vote here.

Twenty-five minutes after he stepped from his aircraft, he entered the welcoming atmosphere of a small conference room in the Park Plaza Hotel in the centre of Boston, where about 50 local trade union leaders had gathered to listen to this state's favourite son.

"I come here today", Senator Kennedy said, stabbing at the air with a pointed finger, "because I need and want your support. Frankly I feel I deserve it".

"You've got it!", one of the union leaders shouted back as the senator's punchy speech was drowned by cheers and loud applause.

His campaign officials distributed what purported to be a text of his speech to the large entourage of reporters, but any resemblance between Senator Kennedy's spoken and written words was purely coincidental. After the bumbling uncertainty which characterized the beginning of his campaign last November, his oratorical powers have returned and he no longer needs to refer much to his notes.

His attack focused on President Carter's shortcomings on the economic front. "We are facing the most serious economic crisis since the Depression", he said in a rising voice. "Working people like you are going to be affected as harshly as during the thirties."

Economic statistics tumble out as he thumps the lectern with a clenched fist. Eighteen per cent inflation, 16 per cent interest rates, a 35 per cent increase in college fees, compared with Dutch inflation a mere 3.9 per cent and Japan 4.2 per cent.

"A few days ago when President Carter was asked about his economic policies, he said they suited him fine. Well, 1.5 million people out of work over the next year doesn't seem too good to me."

He then launches into his preferred solution to the crisis—the introduction of a short price and wage freeze while "we build in dynamics" which will restore the shattered economy. "There's nothing wrong with America. We have more natural resources than all our allies. We just got to come to grips with our problems, that's all", he says.

"The question before the people today is whether we are going to be satisfied with the status quo of roaring inflation and high interest rates for another four years. If we're not, then you must vote for me."

He pumps a few hands at the front of the room, smiles broadly for the television cameras, and steps out of the room for yet another television interview. Then it's on to a cocktail fund raiser, an inaugural dinner for a local mayor and finally some back-slapping for his campaign workers in the state.

Outside the cocoon of hard-core supporters like the unions and the large Irish and Italian Roman Catholic communities in the state, however, the warmth of feeling which sent him to the Senate last time with a huge majority, has been cooling rapidly.

To the dismay of his supporters here, the local newspapers have been filled with "hate Kennedy" articles in which Irish and Italian Americans say they will vote for anybody other than the senator they sent to Washington for the first time 17 years ago.

The senator's assistants say that most of the letter-writing campaign comes from the right-wing fringe of the party, who oppose his policies on such controversial issues as gun control, school busing and abortion. But other Democrats, who have voted for him instinctively in the past, are not so sure.

A former Democrat, who has registered as a Republican this time round so that she can vote tomorrow for Mr John Anderson, the Republican whose views are in some ways more liberal than the senator's, has found that many of her girl friends are put off by what she calls Mr Kennedy's "sexist" outlook on life. "They don't feel strongly about Chappaquiddick any more," she says, "but they don't like the way he has treated his wife Jean. And then there are the other women in his life."

Another important problem that the senator faces in his home state is a general feeling that he has taken his supporters too much for granted while he has been away in Washington. "He doesn't have the same way of getting on with ordinary people that his brothers used to have," says a young businessman who still intends to vote for him tomorrow. "He comes across as distant and even a bit arrogant."

Certainly a lot of state officials, who would normally have backed the senator almost automatically, have already switched their support to President Carter. Some of them say they know him better than they do their own representative in the Senate.

The President has never expected to do particularly well in Mr Kennedy's home state and the small army of surrogates, who descended on New Hampshire and Maine for the campaigns there, have spent little money and time here.

China gives details of Liu's death

Peking, March 3.—China has for the first time revealed details of the death of Liu Shaoqi, the former head of state, purged during the Cultural Revolution 12 years ago.

..The Workers Daily, in a long article yesterday by five of Liu's children, said he died in prison in Kaifeng City in the central province of Honan in November, 1969. Mr Liu would then have been aged 71. The cause of his death was not given.

In the article, the children thanked the Chinese Communist Party for its decision to posthumously rehabilitate their father 12 years after he was removed from all posts and denounced as "a renegade, traitor and scab."

The decision was announced last Friday at the end of an important meeting of the party central committee.

It said Mr Liu's wife, Wang Guangmei, who was rehabilitated and given an important post in the Academy of Social Sciences last year, was imprisoned and at one time even sentenced to death.

The children said their grandmother and two elder brothers, Liu Yunbin and Liu Yunruo, also died "tragic deaths" in the Cultural Revolution, but gave no other details.—Reuter.

Hostages in Bogota face long wait

Bogotá, March 3.—Guerrillas holding dozens of hostages in the Dominican Republic Embassy appeared ready today for long and tough bargaining with the Colombian Government after a first round of negotiations yesterday.

Five hostages were released after the meeting between two government officials, a masked woman guerrilla and Señor Ricardo Galan, the captive Mexican Ambassador. A government communiqué said the talks would continue but did not say when.

One of the hostages released yesterday, a waiter, said the captives—including 13 ambassadors—were made to take turns in the most exposed places of the occupied building to shield their captors

The waiter, Señor Carlos Ferreyra, said the guerrillas appeared to number 29

Señor Ferreyra said the hostages were held in two rooms on the buildings second floor. The ambassadors were in one room. In the other room were consuls, chargés d'affaires, secretaries and other guests captured when the guerrillas stormed the embassy during a diplomatic reception

Eighteen hostages, including 15 women, have been released. They said 32 people remain captive.—Reuter.

Independence promise of schooling for all by 1960 remains a dream

Too many babies clog India's development

From Richard Wigg
in a Karnataka village, India, March 3

If you fall seriously ill in this village there is nothing for it but to travel on a bullock cart five miles down an unsurfaced road and then one mile more into the market town to see the nearest doctor.

The doctor, in his early 30s and the son of a local farmer, is in charge of a primary health centre serving an area with more than 120,000 inhabitants.

He is not very popular with the villagers who complain he takes three rupees each from them for himself when they go for the free immunization jabs organized by the state. It is only the midwives who are a familiar sight in such isolated villages of southern India—to ensure the safe birth of a son, the supreme achievement of every Hindu married couple.

The doubling of its population over the past 40 years, has been the greatest single obstacle across India's path to progress. The country has "voted by the genitals" to negate its own economic gains, except for small pockets of prosperity. And by the end of the century the process will have resulted in a population of 900 to 1,000 millions.

The birthrate is not under control: last year it was running on a national average at 33 per 1,000, although the target set in 1976 was for 30 by 1978-79. Last spring the Janata Government agreed to an expert's recommendation to try for a "more realistic" target of 31 or 32 per 1,000 by 1983. International experts, working on Indian government figures, say that by then it may well be back at the 1952 figure of 41 per 1,000.

Every month 100,000 of India's children die of malnutrition. According to a recent official survey, 62 per cent of female children do not attend primary school.

After independence the Indian government pledged itself to achieve universal primary education by 1960. Two decades after this deadline two out of every three children can neither read nor write.

Family planning is just not working. "There must be forceful persuasion, bringing the people in, or family planning will not work in India", the local doctor told me.

"We are not reaching 25 per cent of our voluntary targets. What was wrong under Mrs Gandhi's compulsory sterilization was only the indiscriminate rounding up of men for vasectomies—they stopped buses on the roads here in Karnataka.

"It should only be persons identified by the village headman, or my health workers, as having already three children.

"People are simply not coming now. If any woman comes it's because she's educated", he continued. "Not 5 per cent of the village women listen to the health programmes of All-India Radio. They don't even realize the problem of having healthy children. Families like the girls to get married as soon as menstruation starts."

In Karnataka villages two youths aged 18 and already married, confessed to me it was their newly-wed wives who refused to let them use town-bought contraceptives "because in our society the first thing a wife wants to be is a mother".

They explained that if after one year there is no child, the other villagers look askance at them, first the wife, then the man. Many of the villagers go on having children thinking that God gives them.

Pressure on land for food in these villages is intense. No one saw this more clearly than the 65-year-old Lingayat who kept the land records in one of the villages I visited. "Forty years of effort have brought nothing to show for it," he lamented of his six acres of unirrigated land, now necessarily divided up between him and his two sons. A single crop a year never produced enough to invest on improvements or to educate his sons. Blaming "so many mouths to feed" for the fragmentation, the old man claimed the population was around 300 when he was a boy in the village; now it is 850.

Education underlines this strain on resources. There is one primary school with one teacher taking four classes of up to 50 children, aged six to 10. A total of 140 children are enrolled by the parents to observe India's compulsory education rule, but only about 60 attend regularly. At 10 children become useful in the fields, but most drop out even earlier.

The village schoolmaster, a sad-eyed man in his mid 40s, complained of long delays in receiving his 400 rupees (about £22) a month salary. School equipment, he said was inadequate

Confusion in Tehran over access to hostages

Tehran, March 3.—Confusion still existed today over whether the United Nations Commission hearing Iranian grievances against the Shah would be able to see all the hostages held at the American Embassy in Tehran.

The commission said that Iran's ruling Revolutionary Council had authorized them to see all the hostages. However, the Muslim students who have held the 49 hostages at the embassy for almost four months to support demands for the return of the Shah, said that they awaited a decision on the visit from the Ayatollah Khomeini.

As uncertainty persisted over the meeting, the Foreign Ministry, which has been keeping three other United States diplomats in protective custody, came under pressure to allow revolutionary justice authorities to interview one of them.

The Revolutionary Prosecutor asked Mr Sadaq Qotbzadeh, the Foreign Minister, to surrender Mr Victor Tomseth for questioning about alleged links with the shadowy political assassination group Forghan, which claimed responsibility for killing several religious figures close to the Ayatollah Khomeini last year.

The five members of the United Nations panel said after meeting Mr Qotbzadeh today that the minister "informed the commission that the Revolutionary Council has decided unanimously that the commission will see all the hostages".

The statement, which gave no time for the projected meeting, was the first official word from the commission that the government had given them the go-ahead since they arrived here on February 23.

The Ayatollah Khomeini, accompanied by his son (right) and a doctor, leaves hospital in Tehran where he has been recovering from heart trouble for the past five weeks.

President's promise: In an interview released today, President Bani-Sadr of Iran sharply attacked the militants holding the hostages in the American Embassy in Tehran and promised that the Iranian Government would take them under its protection "once the conditions for a return of the Shah are fulfilled.

"In any event, things are over now with the students". Mr Bani-Sadr told the West German news magazine Stern. "They have nothing to decide, they have to obey.

"Until now, the government has not wanted to take the hostages. I was not supposed to be responsible for hostages. But once the conditions for a return of the Shah are fulfilled, the government will take them under its protection, that is then its duty."—UPI.

Kampuchea faces new threat of starvation

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, March 3

Starvation threatens Kampuchea at the end of the month when the latest harvest is exhausted, according to six directors of American relief organizations who have been visiting Phnom Penh and other parts of the country.

They said on arrival in Bangkok tonight that massive foreign food aid would be needed between now and the end of the year to avert a catastrophe.

The Americans, who represent six voluntary organizations which have combined to form "Action for Relief and Rehabilitation in Kampuchea", had spent three days in south-east Kampuchea and the Phnom Penh area.

Mr Paul McCleary, executive director of Church World Service and leader of the group, said they were all satisfied that neither the Kampuchean Government in Phnom Penh nor the Vietnamese were impeding the distribution of foreign food aid to the people.

"From what we saw ourselves at four major distribution centres and a number of smaller ones", he said, "we are certain that lack of will by the authorities is not interfering with the distribution of supplies."

He felt certain that food was reaching the remotest provinces, although not in sufficient quantities because of logistical problems such as lack of vehicles, bad roads and a shortage of trained workers.

There was no evidence of grave malnutrition but the people were living from hand to mouth and the Phnom Penh Government would welcome fresh aid on a massive scale.

The group said that apart from their own organizations' efforts to increase aid in the near future they would encourage the American government to do likewise. They would also urge Washington to recognize the Heng Samrin administration as the legitimate Government of Kampuchea.

Mr Frank Keihne, executive director of the international division of the YMCA, said that all possibilities of helping Kampuchea would not be realized until the Heng Samrin government was recognized throughout world.

"It takes much humility", he said, "for one government to accept aid from other governments that do not recognize it, which is the situation now."

Mr McCleary said the most urgent need was to get thousands of tons of rice seed and farming equipment for the main harvest to planting areas before the onset of the monsoon made transport even more difficult.

Mrs Gandhi blames US for Afghan crisis

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 3

Mrs Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India—the largest non-aligned country in the world—makes it clear in an interview published today in Le Matin that she believes the United States is at least as much to blame for the tensions surrounding Afghanistan as is the Soviet Union.

She strongly criticises the "spectacular" growth of the American presence in the Indian Ocean and adds "we do not want any foreign influence in this region."

Western governments, she says, had reacted excessively to the crisis "doubtless due to the influence of big business such as arms, shipbuilding, steel." The United States had in fact taken advantage of the situation to take "disproportionate measures". "It is important to realize that one of the reasons for the crisis is the Rapprochement between China and the United States against the Soviet Union which feels itself encircled."

She says that the Iranian example is enough to show the Americans that helping Pakistan might have consequences opposite to those it is seeking. "We do not want to enter into an anti-Communist community with Pakistan, but we want to improve relations with it. It is very dangerous and it is not, in fact, in the interests of India, to have weak neighbours threatened with disintegration".

Mrs Gandhi discounts the idea of an international force to control Afghanistan, basing this on the "fairly bad memory" India has of the United Nations force controlling Kashmir after independence in 1947.

Kabul leader says Russians stay until plots eradicated

Delhi, March 3.—President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has reiterated that Soviet troops will remain until all conspiracies against his country have been eliminated, Radio Kabul reported today.

But he said in a statement yesterday that Afghanistan would remain non-aligned and he appealed to Muslim guerrillas to lay down their arms.

The radio, monitored by the Press Trust of India, said President Karmal declared that Soviet troops would remain in Afghanistan until "plots and conspiracies of regional reaction, imperialists and expansionists are eradicated forever".

The Soviet Union, which supported the December 27 coup that brought President Karmal to power, has an estimated 75,000 troops in Afghanistan, according to United States officials.

President Karmal repeated Afghanistan's desire to have friendly relations with all its neighbours including Pakistan and Iran, and other Muslim countries. He said the Afghan Government favoured the settlement of disputes through peaceful negotiations.

President Karmal said Afghanistan would remain non-aligned and abide by the United Nation's Charter

Rhodesians learn to live with guerrillas

From Dan van der Vat
Salisbury, March 3

The four-man Australian Army contingent which had been monitoring the 2,800 guerrillas gathered at assembly point "Delta" here left camp at dawn today without ceremony, leaving six British soldiers as the sole Commonwealth presence.

Meanwhile, the 12 Rhodesian policemen who started the process of establishing a presence in the camp last Thursday were augmented to 28 over the weekend. Yesterday 10 members of the Rhodesian security forces moved in to join them.

The atmosphere at the camp remains relaxed. The residual Commonwealth presence consists of three Royal Signals soldiers and three Royal Engineers, headed by Captain Stephen Pearce, the detachment's commander.

"The guerrilla commanders came to the mess on Saturday night for a farewell party for the Australians", Captain Pearce told The Times.

The British detachment is thought likely to stay on for about a month for liaison and training purposes. The Rhodesians, led by Captain Roy Reader, plan to start joint patrols with the guerrillas on Wednesday.

Captain Pearce thought relations between the Rhodesians and the guerrillas looked promising. They had played a few games of cards together. "I think it will be all right. The Rhodesians are here to make it work".

Elsewhere in the country, however, the security forces appeared to be even more visible than they were during the three days of voting last week.

Driving 300 miles across the country today I saw troops with rifles at the ready lining the streets of towns guarding shopping centres.

They were particularly thick on the ground in the Salisbury suburbs.

Pledge of British support

Continued from page 1

Zimbabwe. There must be no violent action or reaction of any kind," he said.

It was up to the parties to decide about the future government. "My purpose is to bring about an orderly transfer of power to a stable Government. Together with the party leaders, I will, therefore, be working for a broadly-based Government capable of achieving reconciliation and overcoming the divisions of the past," the Governor said on radio and television.

Much good had been done to this end and it would be tragic if the opportunity were missed. "Britain is ready to do everything in its power to assist with the transition from the declaration of the election results to the granting of independence. It is our concern that the process should be an orderly one," Lord Soames said.

After independence, the relationship with Britain would change, but "Britain stands ready to play its part in assisting the new state of Zimbabwe to build her future in conditions the Governor concluded.

General Walls said tonight in his broadcast after Lord Soames that he was speaking for the security forces which were the greatest stabilizing influence in the country and for those guerrilla units which had accepted the Governor's authority.

He appealed for calm, obedience to the law, peaceful conduct and no hatred or bitterness. "But anybody who gets out of line will be dealt with effectively and swiftly, and, I may say, with quite a lot of enthusiasm."

The greatest enemy after the result was announced would be emotion, and he gave a warning against giving credence to rumours.

Mr Mugabe's message was similar. He asked for mutual respect among supporters of winning and losing parties. He warned the people against giving trouble-makers a chance to create disorder, violence and crime. "Law and order must be obeyed", he stated.

General Acland sees mission's success as almost a miracle

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 3

Major-General John Acland, the military adviser to Lord Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, and the the man who has had ultimate responsibility for the highly successful operation carried out by the Commonwealth ceasefire monitoring force, today expressed confidence that the 17,000 Zanla and 5,000 Zipra guerrillas would remain in their assembly areas after the announcement tomorrow of the Rhodesian election results.

While the first Commonwealth units were being withdrawn from the assembly points, he said in an interview with The Times that he did not think the Rhodesian security forces would attack the assembly areas after the monitoring forces had pulled out.

He felt the introduction during the past few weeks of Rhodesian police and security force personnel into the assembly areas was the "best insurance policy" Zanla and Zipra could have against such an attack.

He also doubted that the security forces would attempt a coup should Mr Robert Mugabe, the leader of Zanu (PF), emerge as the head of the new independence Government in Salisbury.

"I think those on top are sufficiently realistic to realize that this has got to be avoided at all costs", he said, referring to Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, the head of combined operations, and other senior Rhodesian commanders.

General Acland said the success of the monitoring force's operation was "little short of a miracle". He admitted that until onl three days ago he was still uncertain whether the monitoringforce would be able to achieve military stability by the time it was withdrawn.

He added a warning that "everything could still go wrong" if any political leader went back on the orders which had been given respectively to the Zanla, Zipra and Rhodesian security forces, or if negotiations over forming a new government dragged on for too long.

General Acla l: Vacuum to fill.

The whole monitoring operation remained delicately balanced between success and failure throughout the two and a half months that the 1,300 British, Australian, New Zealand, Kenyan and Fijian troops have been in Rhodesia.

First there was the problem of deploying small groups of lightly armed soldiers in remote and potentially hostile parts of the country. "The men showed such a degree of self-control, courage and common sense that no mistakes were made. Had there been one faulty decision made in those early days or one sign of fear shown, I think our casualties would have been considerable and the whole operation would have been a disaster," he said.

But the most difficult problem was how to fill the vacuum that would be left after the monitoring force withdrew.

Under the present plans the bulk of the monitoring force will have pulled out of the assembly areas by Wednesday. However six British soldiers will remain in each of the assembly points until next weekend to help to ease the transition.

A residual British presence will remain in Rhodesia for a while after that to help with training

Quisling's widow leaves estate to Oslo poor

From David Parton
Oslo, March 3

Vidkun Quisling again occupies the minds of Norwegians, more than 30 years after the execution of the man whose name became an international symbol of treachery during the Second World War.

The circumstances are far more auspicious this time, however—depending, presumably, upon the degree of prejudice which his name inspires in Norway.

The terms of the will of Quisling's widow, Maria, who died in January, propose the setting up of a charitable foundation to be administered by the Oslo Inner Missionary Society to benefit the poor of the Norwegian capital.

When Quisling was arrested at the end of the war, his property was confiscated by the state.

After an intense bureaucratic struggle, in which she was aided by some of her husband's former officers, the property was returned to her on the ground that she had never been a member of the Nasjonal Samling (the Norwegian Nazi party).

It is thought that her severe financial privation during this period prompted the decision to bequeath the bulk of her and her husband's joint estate to the Oslo poor. Such a decision was no doubt facilitated by there being no surviving near relatives other than her husband's brother and niece resident in the United States. These are to receive one fifth of the estate's final value.

This final value is expected to amount to some millions of kroner. (There are about 11 kroner to the pound.) Most of the realizable value is in the form of art treasures, including a couple of works by Rubens, a Boucher, an alleged Manet, and a large number of Russian icons and other art objects which the Quislings brought back from Russia after having served with Fridtjof Nansen with the League of Nations relief programme at the end of the Russian civil war.

It was during his stay there that Quisling met his Russian-born wife. It is expected that most of the valuable items, including furniture, will be disposed of by auction in London. Historical interest will be concentrated upon Quisling's voluminous correspondence which his widow carefully preserved.

This will be transferred in its entirety to the Oslo University library, although several institutions in Norway and abroad will be provided with copies of some of the more significant documents. These include Quisling's draft of a "greater Europe pact", providing for a kind of European assembly, his philosophical works, and letters from Nansen.

No less interest will be directed at the draft manuscript of Maria Quisling's biography of her husband, which is unfinished. In a note to her will, she asked that the chapter dealing with Reich-kommissar Terboven be rewritten in order to illustrate the bitter enmity which she maintained existed between him and her husband.

One Norwegian observer who has studied the manuscript states, however, that it would hardly be possible to portray Terboven in a harsher light than that already thrown by Mrs Quisling.

Anticipating a possible groundswell of resentment from former resistance workers and other bitter opponents of Quisling and the Nasjonal Samling Party, Mr Auge Muller-Nilssen, the secretary-general of the Oslo Inner Missionary Society, said today that the society would have no reservations in accepting the bequest.

He pointed out that, although the estate was a joint one, it was Maria Quisling who contributed most towards it, and that the foundation would bear her name.

He expressed the hope that any resentment, however understandable on the part of those who suffered most from Quisling's rule, will not be allowed to invalidate the bequest.

The final criterion of the value of Maria Quisling's will must be the great amount of good it can achieve either in the form of direct grants to those in need, or by financing projects which would serve the same purpose.

Report says poll reflects people's wishes

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, March 3

Last week's Southern Rhodesian election was a reflection of the wishes of the people despite intimidation and pressure on voters, Sir John Boynton, the British Election Commissioner, concludes in his preliminary report published today.

The campaign to inform people about the election was shown to be successful by the very high turn-out. Despite a few allegations of bias against the Rhodesian media, the conduct of the Press was not an issue in the election, the report says.

Sir John believes that the message about the absolute secrecy of the ballot was received clearly by most voters, though there were areas where doubt remained.

Intimidation declined as the election campaign drew to a close "In the early weeks of the campaign, intimidation was a matter of serious concern. Threats of physical violence or death, destruction of property, murder of candidates, abduction of party agents, enforced attendance at or absence from meetings and the threatened continuation of the war were all potent factors in the campaign", Sir John said.

"The powers which the Governor assumed to ban a party or abrogate the election in any designated area contributed to a marked reduction in the level of intimidation

"As a result there was some low-level campaigning by previously inhibited parties and a general relaxation of tension in the final days of the campaign. It was not, however, possible to estimate the residual effect of previous intimidation. Because of the general improvement immediately prior to the poll, none of my supervisers felt that action under the Governor's powers was warranted."

OVERSEAS

Army general easily wins vote for new Thai Prime Minister

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, March 3

Another Army general was chosen today as the new Prime Minister of Thailand when Parliament voted overwhelmingly in favour of General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Defence Minister and Army commander-in-chief.

General Prem, aged 59, received 399 votes, Mr Kukrit Pramoj, a former civilian prime minister, 80 votes, and General Kriangsak Chammanand, who resigned as prime minister last Friday, four votes.

As permitted by the constitution and like most previous prime ministers, General Prem has never been elected to any office. His selection continues the overall military control of the government which has gone on with only brief interruptions since Thailand ended the monarchy's absolute rule 48 years ago.

General Prem, who is a career soldier, made his name fighting Communist insurgents in north-eastern Thailand. In the mid-1970s his liberal and imaginative social and economic policies won the authorities support from poor rural people who were vulnerable to Communist propaganda.

He has argued, against many more senior military commanders, that Communism could not be defeated by arms alone.

His rise to power has been swift since he secured his first government post, as Deputy Minister of the Interior, two and a half years ago.

His reputation for loyalty and integrity has made him everybody's favourite general—from the royal family to the poor rice farmer. His most frequent instruction to his troops is: "Abstain from corruptive practices and adultery."

General Prem will probably cooperate closely with Mr Kukrit Pramoj his only serious rival for the prime ministership, and his government may adopt some of the innovative economic and social measures which Mr Kukrit himself adopted when prime minister. General Prem is also likely to include more elected MPs in his government than his predecessor.

The new prime minister is not likely to change Thailand's foreign policy, although he may take a tougher line with Indo-Chinese refugees. From now on many of his fellow officers will be urging him to push more vigorously than the previous government for the repatriation of refugees now in Thailand and to make it harder for new refugees to enter the country.

General Prem: Liberal economic policies.

Mr Sanjay Gandhi's men move into economic posts

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, March 3

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, underlined today how little importance she attaches to having a full Cabinet team. Even though Parliament reassembles next week, the much expected nominations to the Cabinet today brought in Mr C. M. Stephen, along with four ministers of state.

The Cabinet consists still of only 15 members and several important portfolios have not been allocated. Some ministers will thus have to answer questions for two ministries.

Mr Stephen, who was leader of the Congress opposition in the last Lok Sasha (Lower House), has been given the Ministry of Communications. Mrs Gandhi values his political astuteness, and waited for him to win a safe south Indian seat in the recent round of by-elections.

As with her first Cabinet list seven weeks ago Mrs Gandhi has rewarded familiar faces, re-appointing Mr Z. R. Ansari to the same post of Minister of State for Commerce he held in her pre-1977 Government.

Dr Charanjit Chanana, Minister of State for Industry, and Mr C. P. Singh, Minister of State for Defence, are said to be supporters of Mr Sanjay Gandhi. There is now a marked concentration of the economic portfolios among those who share the ideas of the Prime Minister's younger son.

Rumours have been persistent here that Mr Ramaswamy Venkataraman, the Finance Minister, who does not share those ideas, may be forced out before long.

Mrs Gandhi is clearly giving priority to winning the nine state assembly elections she ordered a fortnight ago. The *National Herald*, the revived newspaper of her party, yesterday emphasized her view that party work was quite as important as being in the Government.

Bangladesh accused over Ganges

Delhi, March 3.—India today accused Bangladesh of preventing the implementation of the 1977 agreement on the Ganges by insisting on participation of Nepal in joint schemes to augment the water flow on the river.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Delhi warned Bangladesh that any distortion of the agreement would jeopardize it. He said that it was not necessary to make Nepal a member of the Joint Rivers Commission set up by India and Bangladesh on the Development of waters on the Ganges.

He was commenting on the reported remarks of Mr Kazi Anwarul Haq, the Bangladesh Power and Waters Minister, on his return from a recent meeting here of the joint commission, which ended in failure. Mr Haq was reported to have said that the Delhi talks "bogged down on the question of Nepal's participation".

The spokesman said that India wanted to abide by the agreement, but Bangladesh "wishes to enlarge the scope of agreement on its own terms and has prevented the implementation of the agreement".—Agence France-Presse.

Ban-order priest is freed on bail

Cape Town, March 3.—The Rev David Russell, an Anglican clergyman, was freed on bail today pending an appeal against a 12-month jail sentence imposed on him last week.

Mr Russell, an outspoken critic of South Africa's racial segregation policies, was sentenced on Thursday after he had pleaded guilty to contravening a "banning order". The anti-apartheid campaigner received a five-year banning order in 1977, seen as an attempt by the Government to silence him.

While the court was in session the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Rt Rev Bill Burnett, said that the banning and prosecution of Mr Russell was "a serious infringement of the freedom of the church".

In open defiance of the banning order, Mr Russell attended a synod in Port Elizabeth at the end of last year. He received a standing ovation when he entered the synod.

The court gave Mr Russell's lawyers permission to appeal, but no date was arranged for the hearing. Bail was set at 500 rand (£270).—Reuter.

Letters, page 13

Timing of arms exhibition upsets Asean officials

From Our Correspondent
Kualar Lumpur, March 3

The biggest exhibition of defence equipment to be held in Asia since the end of the Second World War opened here today, only days before the foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) and the European Community meet to discuss threats to security in the region.

The timing of the exhibition has upset officials in the five Asean countries but Datuk Abdul Taib Mahmud, the Malaysian Defence Minister, has agreed to open the exhibition tomorrow. Defence officials and agents went through the exhibition today and attended a seminar on major developments.

Officials have been at pains to point out that there is no relationship between the exhibition and the Asean-EEC meeting but diplomats and others view it as a consequence of the events in Indo-China and Afghanistan, which have already created pressures on the five Asean nations—Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines—to turn themselves into a military alliance.

The pressure is being resisted, most recently at the weekend when both President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines and Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore Prime Minister, reaffirmed in a joint communiqué in Manila that Asean should remain the economic, cultural and social organization it has been for over 12 years.

The indications are that the five nations are being pushed into a military alliance with the United States quietly edging them along. Mr Richard Holbrooke, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern affairs, was in Kuala Lumpur last month with the message that the United States would not allow the situation in the region to deteriorate.

China, as the other power in the region, has openly promised to support Thailand and the other Asean countries against "Vietnamese aggression".

Fashion

by
Prudence Glynn

I did think it was sweet of them, I never knew that they cared. First, there was a pastry "G" on top of my caviar, last there was an enormous sort of circular pudding number consisting again of my initial. What thoughtfulness, what style.

Of course it was not for me at all; I just happen to share the same initial with one of the greatest jewellers in the world, M Gérard. On the other hand, the whole presentation of £56m pounds of bijouterie does inculcate a certain aura of unreality even among those of us who have fought through the Paris Collections over many years.

At seven in the morning the sun touches the nipples of the Alps into an inordinate pink; at eight a little girl is zooming through her ice skating lessons under my window: at nine the Walt Disney towers of the Palace Hotel, Gstaadt, pricked up for this short, high season one feels, are aglow with golden light. Naturally, I have brought my mac and several cardigans and furs. *Je suis brûlée*, but never mind. . . .

M. Gérard is the only jeweller in the world who presents his wares as does a couturier; twice a year, a new collection, and my, are they stunning. The great difference I find between him and other designers is that even when one is talking in costs that you and I would think of as telephone numbers, style is still the essence of the jewel.

The new revival for jewels is the neck. A nice bangle or two (service stripes they used to be called) just *one* splendid ring maybe, but the neck is the important zone. Gerard does with a stunning insouciance. All the collars are narrow at the back—three rows of smaller stones, and then they blossom into ravishing butterflies (sapphires) or flip back like a bow tie. The use of the materials—gems—is sensational, for it is as though they were made from ribbons. The length is *just* to the collar bone.

Removing my eyes reluctantly from the glitter I noted that glitter was all around me. There are two major fabric stories among the rich and famous who migrate to the high life of the world; they are sequins and pure silk faille, which is not really the same as taffeta because it is far finer. Your fashion editor, having eschewed the pastry initial but tucked back the caviar, observed the following.

An extraordinary resumption of the tight waist, high collar, long skirt, leg o' mutton sleeve, tight wrist look. In short, constriction is with us again, at any rate if you dress at Dior, St Laurent, Scherrer or those who ape their style. The *contre filet en croûte*, the exotic desserts, how do they match with a 22 inch (well make it 25) waist? What does all this tight dress portend. Laver always said, a period of economic stability. Between you and me, I would augur a period of major rethink in the indigestion pill business; I never did understand how the Edwardians managed it and I am certainly not about to start on hiccoughs now. But the chic, I must advise you, are.

Anyway the jewels were what jewels should be at a show of this sort; infinitely covetable. Gérard will open in New York next, with all the clout of a designer who does not have to make a deal. There is a piece, there is a price. Forget haggling: if it comes from Gerard the labourer is worthy of his hire.

Another point which interested me at M Gérard's ball in Gstaadt was the importance of hair. Decorations for the hair abound, hair is braided, knotted, twisted and twirled. Most important, the Japanese influence; front swept up sides puffed over who knows what (the Edwardians called them rats) back rolled up. Decorate with flowers and serve on bended knees.

There is a theory that fashion in dress and fashion in music keep abreast of one another. I am not referring to Come Dancing and those miles of home-grown tulle because that is not fashion, that is costume and thus atrophied. But while the disco dresses are appropriate for the booming gloom in which they are to appear, the music of that region has penetrated upstairs to the ballroom.

Thus, at very grand parties you may see ladies and gentlemen who are distinctly over 21 taking to the floor with gusto and some neat footwork, too, but clad in definitively establishment outfits. It does not work from a visual point of view, nor, in many cases, from an ergonomic aspect. That neatly fitting decorous dress so perfect for the reception line is not always ideal for the fun which you can, and in my opinion, should, enjoy on the parquet. I do not know what the solution is, but it poses a fascinating question to social observers. On the one hand, dress imposes conventions, music and the spirit are suggesting something different.

Incidentally, any readers interested in my terpsichorean activities (the world land speed record for the foxtrot in Dallas, remember?) will be glad to know that I may have matched it in the quickstep and with a neat reverse, too. In America, in the arms of Britain. In Britain, in the arms of America, His Excellency no less, a splendid partner who, after we had shot across the floor a few times and I, breathless but game, was set for the next round, declared that the band had downed the tempo and it was much too slow to be fun.

What really intrigues me is how this schism is going to work out. With clothes so terribly safe and sure and classic (and expensive) and the discos, so they say, dying, is the waltz going to overcome *Saturday Night Fever*? Victor Sylvester, wherever you are, please emit a message. Meanwhile, my tip is to wear soft, draped jersey dresses which cover all actions, prim to imprudent.

The French, of course, are far too clever to be caught in any such sartorial snare. In Gstaadt at M Gérard's party the band could have been playing anything from punk rock to Beethoven. The ladies, cocooned in their haute couture, secure upon the arms of their provident gentlemen, put elegance and consideration for the dress first and proceeded at a sedate pace. Ah, well, that is why we will never be well dressed as a nation, I suppose. Springing about like a lamb when you are in fact mutton does not match with the highest ethics of French couture.

Photographs by Jack Nisberg

■ Top centre: It was all sequins and glitter but the dull Brits can compete. Madame Doris Vesteneer, professeuse de patinage at the Palace Hotel wears a magnificent coat by John Bates. The top half is black leather embroidered with diamante and stitching. The nether regions are acres of softest silver fox. For details, John Bates, 19 Noel Street, W1.

■ Above left: That all important hair, and that all important tulle. A distinct waft of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria was abroad.

■ Above right: And those jewels. Magnificent pearls with a huge collarbone level fastening in diamonds and coral. And the hair decorated. And a certain amount of bosom . . . very much another part of the fin de siècle fashion scene. They were popping up like crocuses.

■ Far right: Ravishing midnight blue faille dress by Gerard Pipart for Nina Ricci. Teeny waist, high collar, huge sleeves, miniscule wrists. Controlled dress is said to spell economic security.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA AND BALLET

CONCERTS

THEATRES

CINEMAS

THE ARTS

Filling in the jigsaw puzzle

John Russell Taylor

The Hungarian Avant Garde/ Ellsworth Kelly
Hayward Gallery

Richard Hamilton
Anthony D'Offay Gallery
and Waddington Gallery

Hegelian ideas of organic development in the arts notwithstanding, grasping the development of twentieth-century art is much more like filling in the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle than tracing a family tree. And often it is exhibitions which provide us with the missing pieces. Though delight should be the primary aim of any art show, instruction does not come amiss as a fringe benefit, and it is amazing how the big, comprehensive, international exhibitions like *Post-Impressionism* at the Royal Academy or *Abstraction* at the Tate do, incidentally, tell us a lot we did not know about parallels and varieties, the *liveliness of* art at a particular period in a country we have hardly considered or the excellence of an artists we have never even heard of.

The same goes, even more intensively, for shows on seemingly esoteric subjects like *Finnish Art Nouveau* at the last Edinburgh Festival or *The Hungarian Avant Garde* at the Hayward now. In all probability we go in knowing none of the names and wondering what exactly we are in for. Sometimes the results are disappointing: when the Academy offered us a panorama of modern Portuguese painting some months ago, it turned out that the painters we had actually heard of were far and away the best, and the *rest nowhere. With the* Eight and the Activists (the two main groups of Hungarian artists during the very dynamic period spanning the First World War), it is quite otherwise. What the show demonstrates for us, first of all, is that Hungary was going through much the same artistic convulsions as everywhere else at that time—which need hardly surprise us—and that it managed to produce a number of strikingly individual artists apart from Moholy-Nagy and Kertesz, both of whom have already been suitably commemorated and justly admired in London this year.

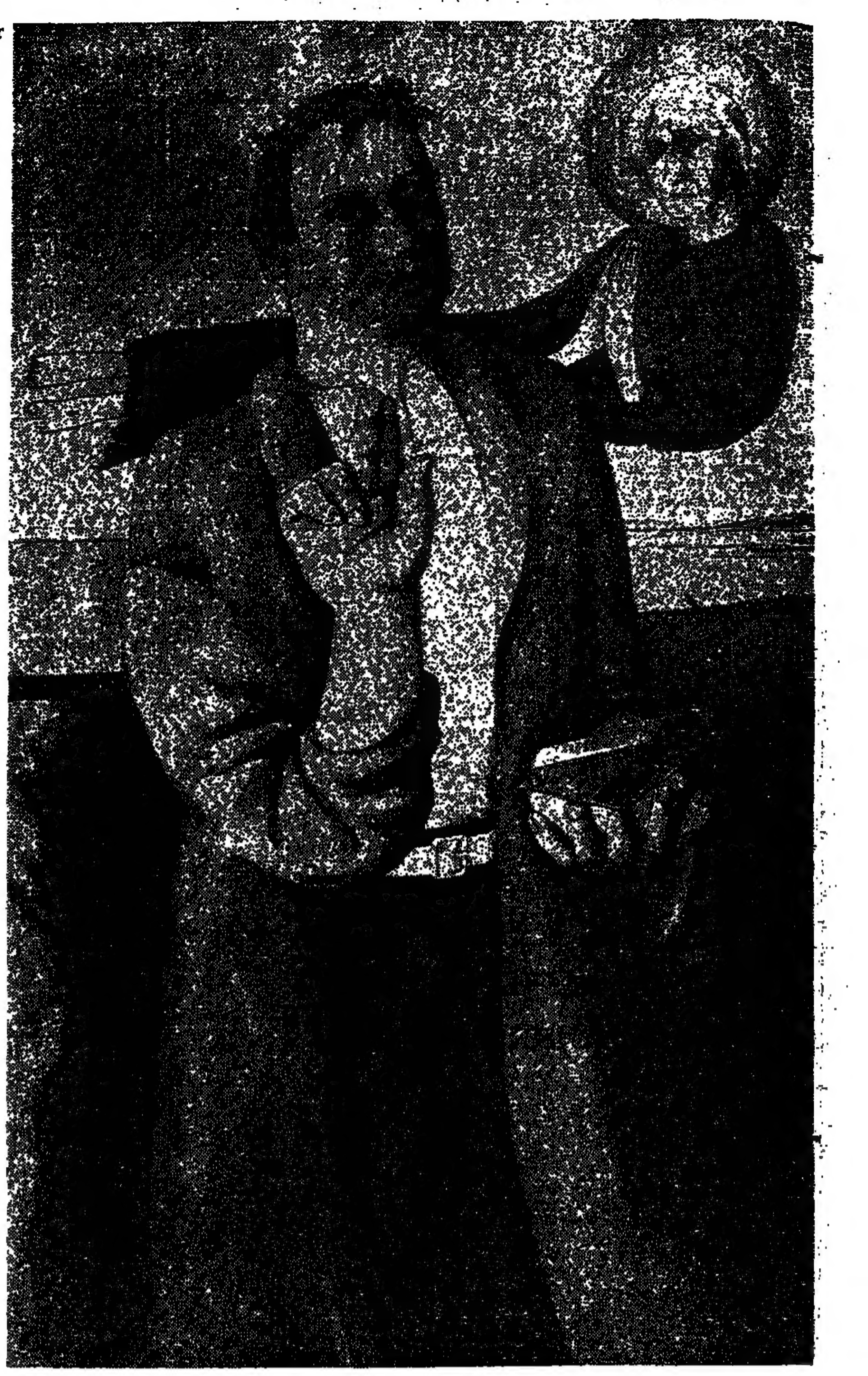
On the whole the graphics—a lot of them revolutionary statements connected with the short-lived Communist republic of 1918-19—are more evidently "modern" in style than the paintings. And it is perhaps because of the political element in much of the work that none of the artists represented here plunges wholeheartedly into abstraction. But the result is an exhibition full of small pleasures, easy to take, and readily enjoyable. It never really challenges, which is a pity: without some element of challenge, something which contradicts our assumptions, we are *unlikely to experience* any major revelations. But it is good to make the acquaintance of painters as gifted in their minor modes as Janos Kmetty, with his strong simplified forms in landscape and portrait, or Jozsef Nemes *Lamperth*, whose rich and individual sense of colour irridiates all the still-lifes and interiors shown here. So the Hungarian avant garde does not turn out finally to be one of the most important pieces missing from our jigsaw; it is still just as well to have as many as possible in their place.

If the Hungarians are easy, Ellsworth Kelly, who shares the space at the Hayward, is a problem. Not in himself, you understand: he is one of those hermetic, self-defining artists who seem to care not one jot where they fit into our calculations, if at all. He has continued through the years to simplify and purify his art until it is reduced to the barest essentials: a simple juxtaposition of two greys flatly applied on rectilinear pieces of canvas; one piece of Cor-Ten steel cut to triangular shape and then tiny bits nipped off two of the three corners and the remains mounted just off a plain white *wall; sometimes, in what seems* in this context like a moment of sensationalism, a curve inscribed within a triangle or pared off one edge of a square.

The problem, of course, is in our own minds: what value do we ultimately place on the works? I must say that, collected together and set off by the white, wide-open spaces of the Hayward, they look sensational. I must also say that I personally am left with a slight feeling of: yes, very nice, but is that all?

Kelly's beginnings, like those of many of the New York abstractionists of the 1950s, seem to have been faintly surrealistic, vaguely Dada. It is interesting to see where Richard Hamilton is coming from. An opportunity to do just that, and at the same time to see where is he going to, is presented in London now by two linked exhibitions, one at the D'Offay Gallery (9 Dering Street) showing drawings, prints and paintings from 1941 to 1955, the other, at Waddington's (Cork Street), showing interiors in collage, painting and various graphic media, done between 1964 and 1979.

There are contrasts between the two shows, as one would expect, but also continuities. Hamilton is very clever, very witty, even when at his most serious. The early work includes such improbables as fashion drawings done as school exercises (he must also hoard everything) and a series of admirably direct, workmanlike etchings of farm machinery. Even at this early stage, he clearly knew exactly what he was doing and did it with immense confidence and flair. The most memorable works here are a series of illustrations (and studies for them) of *Ulysses*, which one could well imagine decorating an edition published some time in the late Forties by, say, John Lehmann or Editions Poetry London — and if they had been, they would have stood high even in that, as it now seems, heyday of British book illustration. The first show stops short of his first involvement in Pop Art: the second begins some time after he had moved away from the most obvious Pop Art attitudes. Many of the works there are variations (and commentaries) on familiar works of art: Picasso's Meniñas, or Van Eyck's Arnolfini portrait, or a selection of Doesburg chairs in *Putting on de Stijl*; others are cunningly combined or doctored or painted-over photographs of unlikely and often rather unappetising interiors. The confidence and flair are still there — and, when he feels like it, the superb draughtsmanship too. But in both shows the artist's eye is paramount: it is *always not what is looked at*, but how it is looked at, which finally counts.



Richard Hamilton: *Stately plump Buck Milligan*, an illustration for *Ulysses*

CINEMAS

PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4, off Piccadilly Circus 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as EMPIRE Leicester Square. No telephone bookings.
1. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep progs daily 1.00 (not Suns.) 3.25, 6.00, 8.35.
2. ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ (AA). Sep progs daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.35, 6.00, 8.35.
3. STAR TREK—THE MOTION PICTURE (U). Sep. progs. daily 2.15 5.15, 8.15.
4. THE SEDUCTION OF JOE TYNAN (AA). Sep progs daily 1.35, 3.45, 6.00, 8.45.

SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366 Winner of 7 awards MY BRILLIANT CAREER (U) 3.20 5.20, 7.20, 9.30 Ring 435 9787 for phone bookings.

STUDIO 1, 2 & 4. Oxford Circus. 437 3300. Lic'd Bar. 1. THE DEER HUNTER (X) 12.45, 4.05, 7.30. Lie Show Sat 10.50. 2. "10" (X). Progs 12.30, 2.45, 5.25, 8.05. Lie show Sat 11.00. 4. APOCALYPSE NOW (X) Sep Perfs Dly 1.15, 4.30, 8.00. Lie Show Sat. 11.10. Seats Bl.ble.

EXHIBITION

DAILY MAIL IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION Earls Court. Open now until Saturday, 29th March 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Sundays. Adults £1.50. Children £1.20. Reduced prices after 5 p.m. Adults £1.20. Children £1.00.

ART GALLERIES

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 Dering St., New Bond St.. RICHARD HAMILTON. 10-6: Sats 10-1. 629 1578.

ANTHROPOS 65/67 Monmouth St. W.C.2. 836 8162. ETHNIC ARTS from £15 Eskimo India Africa New Guinea.

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 01-629 6176. English Pictures from Suffolk Collections. In aid of the Suffolk Historical Churches Trust. Until 28 March. Adm £1. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30: Thurs until 7.

BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). David Garrick. Until 11 May. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork Street, W.1. 734 7984. ANNE ESTELLE RICE 1879-1959 Paintings till 8 March.

BRITISH MUSEUM. THE VIKINGS. Until 20 July. Closed 4 April and 5 May. Weekdays 10-5. Sundays 2.30-6. (Priority to pre-booked school parties Mondays 10-2, from 18 Feb.-24 March and 21 April-14 July.) Last admission 45 minutes before closing. Admission £1.40.

EBURY FINE ART, The Ebury Gallery, 84 Ebury Street, London SW1. Tel.: 730 3341 7806. Publisher of original graphics. A permanent exhibition of Procktor, Beer, Mynott, Mackenzie-Robinson, etc.

FELIX BUHOT 1847-98 Impressionist Etcher Extraordinary Illus cat £1. Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10.30-1. WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY 7 Royal Arcade, Albemarle St., W.1.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond St., W.1. 01-629 5116 BEATRICE HOW 1867-1932 ALSO THE ABBEY THEATRE 1904-78

LEFEVRE GALLERY, 30 Bruton St. W1. 01-493 1572/3. 19th and 20th century paintings and drawings on view. Mon-Fri. 10-5.

LUMLEY CAZALET, 24 Davies St., W.1. 499 5058. 20th CENTURY ORIGINAL PRINTS—Braque, Ernst, Matisse, Moore.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W1. Bonnard, Braque, Leger, Signac, Utrillo, Vlaminck, Vuillard, until 22 March. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30, Sat. 10-12.30

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY exhibition rooms, 15 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1. 01-930 1552. SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE: Painter of the Regency. Adm. 80p Monday-Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-5 Sunday 2-6. Last two weeks.

NICOLA JACOBS GALLERY, 9 Cork Street, London, W.1. KEN KIFF, paintings. Until 8 March. 437 3868.

REDFERN GALLERY. NORMAN STEVENS Paintings, Drawings, Prints. March 4-26. 20 Cork Street, London W.1. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Piccadilly, London, W1. POST IMPRESSIONISM until 30th March '80. Opens Daily 10 am- 6 pm. Weds until 8 pm.

RPO/Gibson
Festival Hall

Noel Goodwin

Whatever may be the truth of the Shostakovich memoirs as published in the West and denied in his own country, the one incontrovertible source of his inmost feelings is and always will be the music he composed. Late in his career he evidently had need of words to make his intentions even more explicit, and there can be no gainsaying the bitterness at the heart of his Symphony No 13, with its setting of bluntly propagandist verse by Yevtushenko. That includes the famous denunciation of Soviet anti-semitism in "Babi Yar" that has given the symphony its accepted subtitle, although Shostakovich waxes even more intense in the other poems, like the ironically titled "Humour" and the fiercely compassionate "In the Store".

Sir Alexander Gibson ensured that verbal sentiments as much as musical character had their due in the RPO's performance on Sunday. It was the first of two concerts for which he has replaced the orchestra's Soviet guest conductor, Yuri Temirkanov.

Sir Alexander nobly kept the programme unchanged, and only some lack of tautness in his overall direction of the symphony muted its sense of tragic purpose. Virtually a cantata, it relies on verbal incisiveness to support its almost primitive harmonic character and John Shirley-Quirk, with the Brighton Festival male chorus, needed a tighter relationship with the orchestral playing. Most of the instrumental solos were well taken (that haunting passage for solo string quartet in particular) but the larger orchestral ensemble was sometimes more tentative than such music can afford to be.

In the all-Russian programme the symphony was a weighty, dominant counter-balance to Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev. Lynn Harrell was the accomplished soloist in the former's Rococo Variations, rhythmically well sprung and superbly sensitive to the music's phrasing, although the orchestra's share failed to disguise the ineffectual woodwind writing which is an inherent weakness. The Classical Symphony of Prokofiev had a welcome ebullience of spirit, and I do not recall hearing the second movement played with such emphasis on its background elements, so that the melodic writing acquired an intriguing quality as if silhouetted against them.

Alicia de Larrocha
Festival Hall

Joan Chissell

Fine all-round musician as she is, Alicia de Larrocha is never happier than when back on her own Spanish soil. Although the hall was only half full on Sunday afternoon for her performance of Albéniz's *Iberia* complete, those fortunate enough to be there made it clear to her that the occasion was an artistic triumph. It was good to see microphones about, for it was a recital that should go straight into the international piano archives.

Not the least remarkable aspect of the performance was its sheer sound. No orchestra could have rivalled the range of colour Miss Larrocha drew from her piano. And whether loud or soft, sweet or dry, *joyeux or sanglotant*, or any of those countless other qualities requested by Albéniz in practically every line, her tone was always a feast for the ear. No matter how densely noted, the texture remained of crystalline clarity. Wherever the tune lay hidden, always Miss Larrocha found it. Her tautly sprung rhythm and the subtlety of her rubato also made a big contribution to the authenticity of the reading. This was no picture-postcard Spain but the real thing.

Since all 12 pieces were equally evocative (and incidentally all were played from memory with quite astonishing accuracy) it seems almost invidious to pick out one rather than another. But in Book I, the "Fête-Dieu à Séville", with its processional rhythms, its bells, its central lament and its memories quivering, Debussy-like, in the night air, was outstanding. So, too, was "Jérez" (one of the composer's favourites) in Book IV, where so much intensity was compressed into the cantando, and intricate surrounding textures so ravishingly clarified and shaded. All three pieces of Book III also haunt the memory, the gypsies of "El Albaicin" as much as for their smouldering passion as for their guitars and castanets, their tambourines and reed pipes.

For "Lavapies", where Albéniz deserts Andalusia for Madrid, Miss Larrocha found a special cutting brilliance of tone. "*El Polo*", with its wry melancholic crunch, was also recreated in a sound-world all its own.

London debuts

Csaba Onczay's unaccompanied cello recital combined the familiar, two of Bach's solo suites, with the less so, Kodály's Sonata Op 8, a demanding programme which the young Hungarian tackled with verve. In the Bach suites he entered into the spirit of each movement easily and naturally, with an alertness to potential dynamic and timbral contrasts. His playing is tense, strong and sinewy (he produced a more gritty sound on the C string than we are used to in Bach), but there was much sensitivity too in the elaborately ornamented slower movements. Though some of the harmonic implications were lost through a tendency to rush, these were otherwise thoughtfully prepared and satisfying performances. Mr Onczay's exciting playing is specially well suited to Kodály's Sonata.

Averil Williams chose mainly twentieth-century music for her flute recital with John Blakely—a wide-ranging and testing programme that showed her to be a mature and imaginative player. Her tone has a light clarity in the upper octaves, rarely resorting to shrillness, and a warm vibrato in the lower register which can be endowed with special intensity. Varèse's *Density 21.5* showed her full command of special technical effects, and the subtle dynamic shading she achieved here, in Milhaud's Sonatina and in Messiaen's evocative *Le merle noir*, attested to her undoubted affinity with French music.

From the vast, largely untapped resources of eighteenth century English chamber music, Concert Royal, an ensemble of soprano, baroque flute, viola da gamba and harpsichord, selected a largely unfamiliar group of cantatas and sonatas. Margarette Ashton has the ideal voice for this music—light, free of vibrato and pure throughout its range. Perhaps it is this concentration on purity of tone that caused some consonants to soften almost to inaudibility and vowels in the upper register to be distorted: but the timbre is nevertheless appropriate and pleasing. In sonatas by Handel and John Ranish, Peter Harrison's flute was both fluent and expressive, with a clear upper octave, mellow middle and hollow lower range: a few intonation worries barely detracted from polished and stylish performances. Marjorie Harmer's viola da gamba was a valuable and reliable partner in the continuo line, but she was more reticent an advocate than Carl Friedrich Abel might have wished for in a solo sonata, supplying a pedestrian reading of a colourful piece. John Treherne's harpsichord continuo was always sensitive, and a solo sonata by Arne had fleet fingerwork and a nice sense of style. In all the larger-scale items, particularly Pasquali's cantata *Pastora*, Concert Royal paid keen attention to details of phrasing and ornamentation, and to balance.

Judith Nagley

The flute quartet repertory is by no means limitless, and the Galliard Ensemble, a talented group from Canada, did well to offer in their Wigmore Hall concert on February 18, a programme that was pleasantly varied in both timbre and emotional pitch. At the lighter end was Haydn's C major Trio, Op 3, No 1, and Mozart's Quartet K 285b, in the same key, which were both acquitted delightfully, technical finesse being transmuted into the utmost charm. A counterbalance was provided by the *Canadian composer* André Prévost's *Mobiles*, an atonal piece of some force, and by Kodály's Dudo for Violin and Cello, Op 7. Of the latter Theodore Arm and Paul Pulford gave a taut, rhythmically alert account.

Barry Millington

ECO/Perlman
Albert Hall

Frank Dobbins

A near capacity audience acclaimed Itzhak Perlman and the English Chamber Orchestra for their all-Mozart concert at the Albert Hall on Sunday. It is perhaps the price of being the only surviving privately administered, full-time chamber orchestra in the world that an ensemble of only 36 players, ideally fitted for Mozart's music, should have to use the vast cathedral of a post-romantic age. For from the respectable distance of the orchestra stalls one felt like an eavesdropper, discerning only the loudest sections and merely glimpsing the detail, which was no doubt lovingly provided by the dedicated players.

One might have expected a programme exclusively devoted to Mozart to have been more representative. But in fact the four works heard were all light, entertaining pieces in major keys completed before the composer's twentieth birthday and barely hinting at the pathos which characterized some of his later works. First came the *Serenata Notturna* in D (K239), a divertimento for string orchestra; the opening march was played with brightness, the ensuing Minuet with elegance and the final rondeau with pert grace, but the delicate traceries of the episodes for solo strings were far from distinct. The Violin Concerto in G (K216) which followed provided more opportunities for Mr Perlman's consummate skill in articulating solo lines of great warmth and eloquence. The initial allegro was presented with bouncy verve but achieved momentary poignance with the minor key episode of the middle section; the ensuing adagio abounded in charm and the final rondeau *proceeded at a jaunty pace*, notwithstanding the soloist's occasionally exaggerated *portamenti*.

After the interval the light mood continued with the *Concertone* in C (K190), a (perhaps justly) neglected, youthful *concertante* piece, with soloistic episodes for two violins oboe and cello. Mr Perlman found a worthy partner in the orchestra's leader, José-Luis Garcia, whose playing matched his own in sensuous sweetness and charm, while Neil Black's oboe *obbligati* were lucid and elegant.

But the visiting soloist's virtuosity found its fullest expression in the popular Violin Concerto in A (K219) provided here with dazzling cadenzas in the best nineteenth-century traditions. The horns were a little over-exuberant in their punctuation here but in general the orchestra sounded neat and well balanced, gracing a genial evening of happy musical diversion.

Five Centuries Ensemble
ICA

Paul Griffiths

It is perhaps not surprising that a group boasting one member born in Venice, California, should feel as much at home in Renaissance Italy as in contemporary America. That degree of versatility the Five Centuries Ensemble amply demonstrated in their recital on Sunday night, with a programme divided between works written in New York since the forties and music by composers associated with the d'Este court at Ferrara, Italy.

Among the latter Frescobaldi was shown in an unusual light as a composer of songs, including two darting ironic numbers of great charm, though there was also a keyboard toccata, a very chromatic piece played with expressive freedom by Arthur Haas. The group's other instrumentalist, the gamba player Martha McGaughey, gave a nicely pointed account of an Ortiz ricercare, but the greatest discoveries were in songs of Luzzasco Luzzaschi, chief of the Ferrara musicians, and the cosmopolitan Sigismondo d'India, the equal of his contemporary Monteverdi in poignancy and agility of expression.

I particularly liked the performance of d'India's "Voi ch'ascoltate" by the countertenor John Patrick Thomas, whose voice has none of the harsh glare of so many English falsettists. He sang like an innocent faun, with a fresh quiet tone, and he got straight to the heart of music combining emotional directness with the utmost sophistication. In several duets he was well partnered by the soprano Carol Plantamura, whose more corporeal sound made a nice contrast with his, and who also showed in her solo items the importance of timing and secure decoration to expressive effect.

The second half came as cocktails after fine wine. Cage's "Wonderful Widow" was strangely and not entirely successfully assigned to Mr Thomas, and then from the applause there emerged the thoroughly organized patterns of Steve Reich's *Clapping Music for Eight Hands*. After that the musicians zipped through their programme without pausing for breath. Mr Haas slipped away to ponder a prepared piano piece by Cage, which was no sooner done than his three colleagues entered the still world of Feldman's *Voices and Viol*, the singers smartly turning their backs to make this a riddle of floating harmonies and unisons. Many another Feldman piece might similarly benefit from this sort of unseen performance.

Following a virtuoso enactment of Berio's *Sequenza III*, the programme ended with *Three Airs for Frank O'Hara's Angel*, by Lukas Foss, a composer who always exhibits a good deal more self-confidence than talent. But with these performers even that was fun.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

هكذا من الاصل

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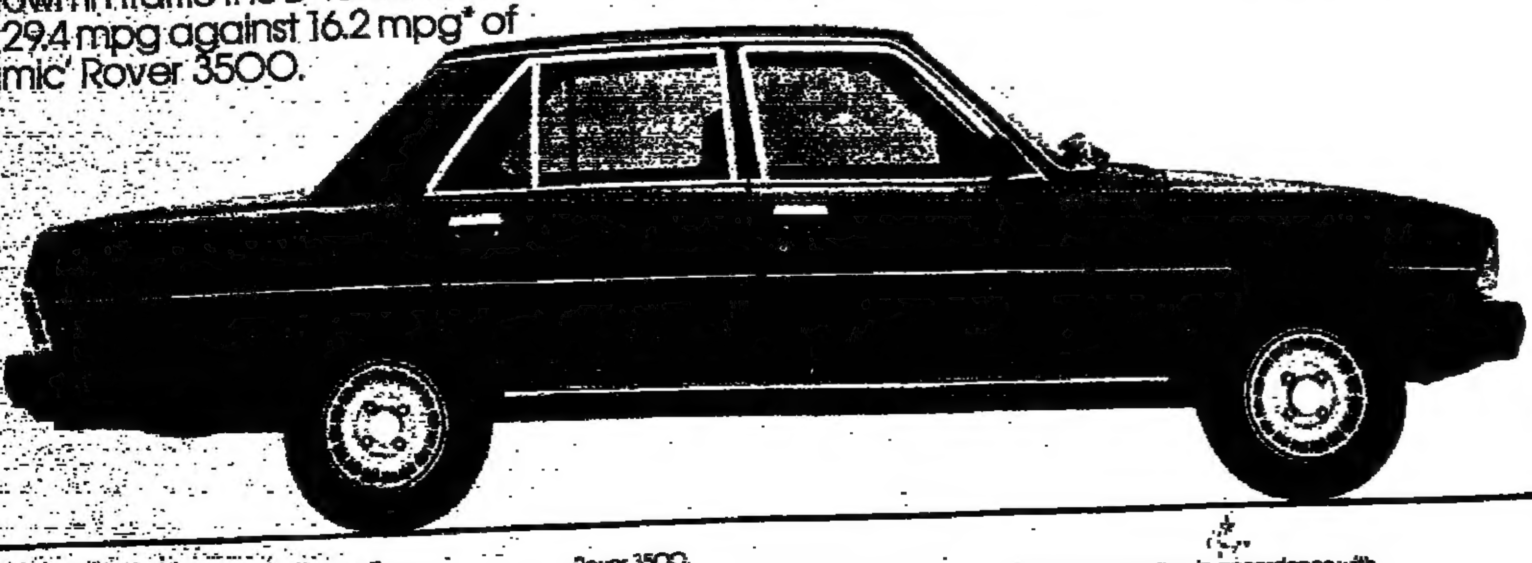

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PARLIAMENT, March 3, 1980

Ministerial apology: Bill of indemnity for commissioners

House of Commons

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said in a statement that he had decided not to appeal against the court judgment in the dispute with the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Area Health Authority (Teaching). He had been told, he added, that members of the authority would comply with cash limits in future.

Mr Jenkin (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, C) *said—I reported* to the House last Tuesday. On Wednesday I had a meeting with Mr Stanley Hardy, the chairman of the AHA(T), who told me that the *soundings he had taken among* members of the authority led him to believe that the authority would in future accept its responsibility to comply with cash limits.

On Thursday, I received a letter from the solicitor for the London Borough of Lewisham, writing on behalf of the three London boroughs who were the applicants in the case before the court informing me that his clients would not object to the commissioners remaining in a purely caretaking role until March 31, 1980.

He envisaged that the authority, *on resuming control from April 1,* would have freedom of action to review decisions taken by the commissioners, but accepted that the authority's expenditure should *stay within cash limits.*

As the House knows, there is a clause in the Health Services Bill now in committee, which, if approved by Parliament, will impose a statutory duty on all health authorities to comply with the Government's requirements on cash limits.

The House will, I know, recognize the importance of these expressions of intent and the recognition they imply of the position which it was always my *intention* to sustain.

In these circumstances, I thought it right to invite members of the AHA(T) to meet me last *Friday to review the position, and* I am grateful to the many members who at such short notice attended the meeting.

The discussion took place in a *helpful and constructive* atmosphere. For their part, the members present, nearly two-thirds of the total membership, unanimously assured me that they will be prepared to accept an obligation to keep the authority's expenditure within cash limits.

For my part, I assured them that on that basis they would be free to review any of the decisions taken by the commissioners, and moreover, that during the short caretaker period up to March 31, the commissioners would not initiate any changes of major significance. *I saw the commissioners'* task as preparing for an orderly handover to the members of the authority, taking only such routine decisions which were essential to *maintain services* in the meantime.

It seems to me that this would be a not unsatisfactory outcome and I have accordingly decided not to appeal against the judgment of Mr Justice Wolff, but *instead* to arrange for the members of the authority to resume their functions from April 1 *next.*

The solicitors for the three councils may seek a formal order from the court within the next day or so. Since the judgment effectively *declares invalid the directions* I gave last August, legislation will be necessary to regularize the position over the past seven months and to give immediate backing to the status of the commissioners up to the end of this month.

The Government is therefore laying a Bill before the House to give legal effect to the decisions and actions taken under the directions *from August 1, 1979 up to and* including March 31, 1980.

The Leader of the House (Mr Norman St John-Stevas) will make a statement about the arrangements for the Bill in due course.

I offer my full and unqualified apology to the House in this matter and in particular for the trouble and inconvenience which the Bill will cause to members.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on Social Services (Salford, West, Lab)—The statement reflects the serious misjudgment he made and he cannot hide from it. *He had given a full apology,* but it might have been better had we got it last Tuesday.

What steps did he take last year to ascertain from the AHA if they were prepared to live within the cash limits, or did he not act in a rather peremptory manner in dismissing them ?

What is the position of the two hospitals closed by the commissioners ? Is he talking about retrospective cash limits or those for *the next financial year ? Have any* patients suffered because of the commissioners' actions ?

What about staff who have lost jobs, those who might have been promoted ; those who now get salaries bigger than they were getting previously ? Will they be cut ? Will lost jobs be regained ? I hope Mr Jenkins will allow the the sort of people I have mentioned to take action.

Mr Jenkin—First, last Tuesday I had not seen the transcript of the judgment or *decided if I* should appeal. Had I decided to appeal, there might have been nothing to apologize for. Now I have decided not to appeal and it seemed only right to offer my full and unqualified apologies to the House.

On cash limits, I am talking about the next financial year. This is because the health authority recognize it is sensible for the commissioners to remain in power until the turn of the financial year.

I could be accused validly of being peremptory without reference to the long period before the decision on August 1. The *authority had been consistently* overspending.

On the two hospitals he mentioned, that is a matter for the new authority to decide. But they have agreed that while free to change decisions of the commissioners, they have to do this within the context of the cash limits we have laid down.

Regarding patients and staff who might have been *dismissed* or promoted or appointed, it is to *avoid the kind of legal doubts and* wrangles which could arise that we ask the House to pass the Bill.

As I understand it, if applicants get an order in court for a prerogative *writ giving effect* to the judgment, everything which has taken place since my directive last August would be held invalid. As that could give rise to a lot of personal and corporate difficulties it would be sensible to pass the Bill.

Mr Michael English (Nottingham, West, Lab)—Why even now is he asking the members of this health authority to obey cash limits when he has never issued a direction under Section 17 asking them to do so ?

Why did he sack them first instead of asking them or laying a duty upon them to do what he is still only asking them in a non-formal way to do ?

Mr Jenkin—I was advised that it *would have been necessary to* delay to give the authority time to respond or fail to respond to the direction under Section 17.

I had in mind that already five months of the year had passed and every month that overspending went on the task of bringing this authority back within its cash limits would have been that much more difficult.

Mr John Tilley (Lambeth, Central, Lab)—While he may be able to have a retrospective amnesty for his commissioners and their staff, he can in no way compensate those constituents of mine who had to suffer prolonged suffering *and pain because of the illegal* cuts he imposed.

A lot of the tragic medical harm of his decision can never be put right. (Labour cheers.)

Mr Jenkin—I am not sure that is a helpful contribution. If the health authority had done last August what a majority of its members agreed that they would do in *future that health authority* would have had to take some pretty difficult and unpalatable decisions.

I am far from clear these would necessarily have been very different from the decisions the commissioners took.

Mr Robert Mellish (Southwark, Bermondsey, Lab)—This is a sad, sorry and abject story. Is it not appropriate that April 1 is the day when the area health authority is reconvened ?

If the AHA decided within the cash limits that the closure of *St Olave's hospital should never* have taken place, that it had nothing to do with the argument of the cash limits and decided to reopen that hospital, can I have a firm assurance that he will not interfere and allow them so to open it.

Mr Jenkin—April 1 is the date suggested first *in* court by the applicants' counsel and, secondly, in a letter from the council's solicitor when they wrote to me last week. I was happy to accept that because it seemed to be a sensible date that would allow for a orderly return of the responsibilities to the members.

I am well aware and sympathize with his concern for St Olave's Hospital. It is open to the members of the authority to review decisions that have been taken and I have *no doubt they will want to* do that within the constraints of the money which will be made available to them next year.

If they accept that, there is no reason why I should not accept decisions they have come to.

Mr Roger Moate (Faversham, C)—It is not a sad, sorry and abject story for the people living in the South East Thames region if *it* is the case that this area health authority will in future abide by cash limits which, in the past, they have blatantly, flagrantly and consistently abused.

Mr Jenkin—I am obliged.

If the members of the authority wish to change the decisions which have been made by the commissioners (he said) they will do so *in full knowledge of any legal consequences* of making those changes.

Mr Roland Moyle an Opposition spokesman on health (Lewisham, *East, Lab)—What happens to* those people who have sold goods and supplies to the area health authority ? Are they going to be paid and what happens to people promoted since last July ?

Mr Jenkin—It is precisely in order to avoid the kind of difficulties which he has referred to that we have considered it necessary to introduce a Bill.

High VAT 'nothing to do with inflation'

High rates of VAT had nothing whatsoever to do with inflation, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, said to loud Opposition shouts and laughter.

He told Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade, that the rate of VAT set in the budget was offset by an equal reduction in income tax. The reply *provoked Opposition shouts* of "Who to ?"

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire, Lab) had said that various economic reports published today predicted further increases in the rate of inflation to well over 20 per cent.

As a growing number of people (he said), even within the Tory Party and the Cabinet, are beginning to realize that extreme doctrinaire monetarism is not the cure for inflation will the *Government* even at this late date, abandon its plan to abolish the *Price Commission?*

What people are calling for is more price control, not less.

Mr Nott—He is obsessed with the Price Commission which only has a *few weeks of life left.*

I am not quite sure what some of the forecasters are really proposing. I read that some of them were recommending measured reflation. *I am not really sure what measured* reflation means in current circumstances.

There are really two questions to be asked: can we finance a deficit without intolerably high interest rates, and is private sector credit growing too fast in relation to output?

These are simple questions and the answer to both of them will be given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his budget statement.

Mr Robert MacLennan (Caithness and *Sutherland*, Lab)—Does he consider changes in competition policy have had or will have any effect on the level of prices?

Mr Nott—I hope the Competition *Bill will have some marginal* influence on prices. I have never claimed the Bill is going to transform our economic environment.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C)—*I would ask a third question;* how does he think that a 17 per cent. minimum lending rate has helped to *contain inflation*?

Mr Nott—He must understand—*(Opposition shouts of* "Must? ")—that the Government inherited a prospective borrowing requirement of £11.5 billion and succeeded in bringing it down to a *prospective borrowing requirement* of £8.5 billion.

It inherited a substantial deficit which it had to finance in a non-inflationary way—(Opposition *interruptions and laughter)—and* interest rates will have to be at whatever level is necessary in order to finance that deficit.

Coroner's decision 'will curtail transplants'

Mr Tam Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab) unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the decision of the Leicester Coroner to require in writing applications for the removal of bodily organs for transplantation.

He said this was a matter that went without the *boundaries* of Leicester and affected the whole United Kingdom.

There were hundreds of people, probably 1,300 or more, waiting *each year for matching tissue in* regard to kidneys. Deterioration set in within half an hour. The truth was that if there had to be written confirmation and various other so-called safeguards it would be far more difficult, and in many cases impossible, to get the matching tissue as had been the practice over the past few years when the number of successful transplants had increased dramatically.

The matter was urgent because doctors were loath—understandably so—to get entangled with coroners.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) *turned down Mr Dalyell's application* stating that it did not fall within the provisions of the relevant standing order.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Motions on MPs' secretarial and research allowances. Motion on Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1976 (Continuance) Order.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill, report.

Strikers' benefits

Mr. Reginald Prentice, Minister for Social Security, said in a written reply that up to February 26 £4,698,000 had been paid out to striking steelworkers and their families.

Needs of individual uppermost in education of handicapped

The Government is to introduce legislation to change the framework within which handicapped children are educated, Mr Mark *Carlisle, Secretary of State for* Education and Science, announced in a statement. This was in line *with the central recommendation* of the committee of inquiry under the chairmanship of Dr Mary Warnock which reported in March, 1978.

Shortly after the report had been received, he said, a consultation *document was issued to seek the* views of the many organizations concerned with the education, health and welfare of the handicapped.

Their responses (he went on) were almost wholly favourable. In addition a thorough inter-departmental study of the report's recommendations has now been *made and completed within government.* In view of the anxieties expressed on both sides of the House during discussion of the provisions of Clause 9 of the Education (No 2) Bill *we have decided* that it would be right to announce at once the Government's response *to the report.*

The central recommendation of *the report was that, in the light of* the experience gained since the passing of the Education Act, 1944, the concept of special educational treatment appropriate to defined *categories of bodily or mental handicap* should be replaced by that of the special educational needs of individual children. Such a change, which would reflect enlightened current practice, was welcomed by the bodies we consulted.

The Government accepts the arguments in the report for changes *in* the current statutory *provisions relating to special educational* treatment and intend to introduce early legislation to enact a new framework substantially on lines recommended in the report. The new legislation will incorporate provisions designed to safeguard the interests of children with severe or complex special educational needs, including arrangements for more widely based assessment and for the recording of individual needs.

The legislation will also define and protect the rights of parents to adequate information and consultation about the education offered for their children taking account of the relevant recommendations of *the report and in the spirit of the* provisions about information and *parental preference* embodied in the Education (No 2) Bill.

Many of the other recommendations in the Warnock report were not addressed directly to government, but to those concerned with the local provision of education, health and welfare services. Some recommendations, *for example* those relating to nursery education, teacher training and *further* and higher education, have major *implications for central and local government expenditure and their* implementation must be considered in the light of the economic situation and the need for restraint which it entails.

The Government's current expenditure plans provide for the maintenance of expenditure on special education at its present level despite the fall in the size of *the relevant age groups.*

We propose to lay before Parliament in due course a White Paper outlining the form the new legislation might take and dealing with other recommendations made by the Warnock Committee.

Mr Neil Kinnock chief Opposition spokesman on Education (Bedwellty, Lab) said this was a shallow and ineffectual response to so much earnest and authoritative work by the committee and other people. He welcomed the decision to accept the arguments for changing the legislative categories from the rather narrow definition of handicap and subnormality.

Does his undertaking on a new framework (he went on) mean that we will get a broader, more sensitive and sensible definition of special educational need which is related to the individual characteristics of individual children who suffer from behavioural and emotional disorders as well as physical and mental handicaps?

When are we going to see the *White Paper? More important,* why should we and parents who are concerned with these matters have to wait for at least another eight months for a Bill, another year for enactment and another 18 months for operation?

This is an unwarranted delay, especially since there has been *exhaustive consultation lasting* for two years and there is ample scope in the Education (No 2) Bill in the House of Lords to make these changes.

Is there delay because he is trying to head off a threatened rebellion in the House of Lords *or* because he cannot yet decide what the *extent* of choice and parental *rights should be for parents* who have children with special educational needs?

Does he propose in the new legislation to remove section 10 of *the 1976 Act as has been rumoured* in the press and, if he does, will it be because he has abandoned any hope of getting the vital additional resources necessary to make *integration of children with special* educational needs into ordinary schools a practical and acceptable possibility? Does he accept the recommendation emphatically urging *specific additional resources?*

Mr Carlisle—His description of my response as shallow is somewhat *surprising* as there was only one direct recommendation to *Government, namely changing the legislative* framework. As I have said, the Government propose to legislate to carry it into being. It is difficult to know what more I could have done.

The purpose of changing the legislative framework will be to bring in a framework in accord with the general recommendation of the *committee*, which *is* to get away from the narrow categorization into various categories of bodily and mental handicap and instead provide the much broader framework of children in special eucational need.

I was surprized at his criticism of unwarranted delay. It has nothing to with the Education (No 2) Bill.

The recommendations do mean substantial additional resources. I thought it right to make it clear that resource implications would be considered in the light of the *economic circumstances.*

In answer to a later question, Mr Carlisle said he hoped the White Paper would be published by early summer.

'Planned world trade' urged

There was no question of introducing any general regulation on *imports into the United Kingdom,* Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, said to Conservative cheers during question time.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) had asked—The majority of trade unions who operate in *manufacturing* industries have concluded that there is *need to introduce the planned regulation* of world trade to increase its volume. (Conservative laughter.)

If the minister still stands aside and refuses to *intervene* in this business, the rate of destruction of jobs in this country is such that he will compel trade unions to take action by introducing selective *industrial embargos on certain goods* coming into this country.

Rather than force trade unions to take action of that kind, will he reconsider his answer and introduce *some planned regulation?*

Mr Nott—I am not sure how he and the TUC are going to set about planning world trade, as he puts it, from London. The impact of the *kind of selective controls he is* talking about would be to put up prices and thereby raise costs, which would divert goods which are not going into export markets to the home market and in that way would damage the balance of payments.

If it succeeded which I do not think it would, it would strengthen the pound even more and therefore erode profit margins even further. It would surely provoke retaliation against us from other countries.

Really, his proposed policy does not stand up to serious argument.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C)—I agree with the range of argument he has put forward since *Mr Atkinson's suggestions* would be both lunatic and self-defeating.

Recent evidence of the American response to efforts by the EEC Commission in synthetic fibres indicate the dangers of retaliation even among allied nations.

Mr Nott—There is an argument advanced by Labour MPs that we should identify chore industries and impose controls to protect *them. But the single greatest industry* here is food and there, as I understand it, the Labour Party and the TUC want an entirely open market. Apart from anything else the policy is *not consistent.*

On fibres, we have said throughout that we believe in the open trading system, but that where there is a sudden surge of *imports which come within Article 19 of* the Gatt we are prepared to act. That is what we did over competing textile products.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-*Lyne, Lab)—One of the most* effective ways of limiting manufactured imports is to have a realistic exchange rate so that the prices of these manufactured imports are increased and *not reduced,* as is the Government's present policy.

The one main argument which the Government use against intervening in the exchange rate market to bring about this realistic rate is that it would affect the monetary aggregates. We are paying a high price and that high price has been paid by British industry to maintain our monetary position.

Mr Nott—Just as Mr Atkinson wishes to plan world trade Mr Sheldon wishes to plan international exchange rates. There would be no way in which the British Government at this time could successfully hold down the price of sterling—which is what he is *suggesting—for* anything more than a short period of time. Such a policy would be utterly self-defeating.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (*Birmingham, Selly Oak, C)*—Businessmen would agree that there is no *way by putting up a barrier* around this country that we are going to make industry more efficient. What is important is that we should make certain that imports are not being dumped.

Would Mr Nott look into Thailand from where black and white television sets are approaching what most businessmen would consider *as dumping?*

Mr Nott—We must act vigorously through the *EEC Commission* where dumping arises. This is needed with the direct authority of *the Community, but we must give* every assistance we can to as speedy action as is possible under the regulations under Gatt.

I followed the approach of monochrome *TV sets from Thailand* and the suggestion that there are about 200,000 sets about to arrive in this country. This is an estimate of what one single firm in Thailand might do, but *so far these* televisions have not yet begun. We will investigate the danger of them coming here.

Labour call for rules governing political contribution by firms

There was no limit to company contributions to *political* parties so shareholders who disagreed with any contributions had no rights *under the law,* Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman on Trade, *Prices and Consumer Affairs, said* when the report stage of the Companies Bill was resumed.

On Clause 40 (Restriction on distribution of assets), Mr Smith *(North Lanarkshire, Lab) moved* an amendment to provide that where a company made donations or subscriptions of a political character, they should be made only *out* of a political fund in broadly the same way as trade unions were restricted in the way they made political contributions.

He said the amendment did not seek to prevent companies from making such donations, *but* it did seem to bring some fairness and equity into the matter. It would apply the same principles to companies as for over 60 years had been applied to donations of trade unions.

The only restriction that applied to limited companies was under the Companies Act, 1967, which required them to *disclose* political contributions in excess of £50. As a result they knew that out of 1,000 major companies in this country, about 350 regularly *made political* contributions.

In the year to March, 1979, these companies gave almost £2m to organizations like the Conservative Party. About half of the *contributions went directly to the* Conservatives and the rest went to organizations like British United Industrialists, a curious body, whose object appeared to be *to collect contributions from* companies and pass them on one way or another either to the Conservative Party or causes akin to it.

Whereas a shareholder *had no* rights under the law if he disagreed with a contribution, a trade union member had a legal right not to contribute to a political fund. *It would* be an advance of individual liberty if they were to reconstruct the law in such a way that a shareholder was not obliged to sell his shares in order to indicate his disagreement on the question of political contributions.

Mr Leslie Spriggs (St Helens, Lab) said the average shareholder often first learnt of any political contributions made when he received the annual report or went to the annual meeting.

Miss Oonagh McDonald (Thurrock, *Lab*) said the question of principle here concerned the liberty of the *individual to decide whether he or* she wished to contribute to a particular political party.

Mr Ernest Roberts (Hackney, North and Stoke Newington, Lab) said it was estimated that in 1979 about £2m was paid by companies *in political donations.* There should be a right to decide if money was to be used for political purposes *and if so for which political purpose.*

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab) said if the Government was so concerned about ballots in trade unions, it should accept this modest amendment.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade (South Hertfordshire, C) said that including all those other bodies which so excited Labour MPs the Conservative Party's finance from industry and donations amounted to between 15 and 20 per cent of the party's total income.

It was not easy to put an exact figure on it because this involved adding up the total incomes of the 630 odd independent Conservative associations. Their lack of ability to produce a total sum was a sign of their strength as a party.

The 15 to 20 per cent figure compared with the 90 per cent figure which was the contribution the trade unions made to the funds of the Labour Party. There was a substantial apathy element in the political contributions of trade unions. The commitment to the *trade union movement of Labour* MPs who had spoken was not shared by many tens and hundreds of thousands of people who were members of trade unions, such as *people who had to join because of* the closed shop. Many of those who paid the levy were not aware they did and many who did did not support the Labour Party.

Armed with these unwitting contributions by many people who did not wish to subscribe to the party and many not aware that they did, trade unions went to the annual *conference of the Labour Party.* and controlled it.

The activities of companies were regulated by law. No board of directors could pay a political donation *unless it was within the* powers given to them by the articles of memorandum of the company. At the annual general meeting the amount paid over in political *donations had* to be revealed and any shareholder could attend and object. If there was widespread support for his view, they could refuse to adopt the accounts *and orders.*

Those people who wished to hold shares and did not wish to contribute to the Conservative Party had a wide range of options at their disposal unlike those people who worked in closed shops and did not wish to be members of a trade union. If a shareholder did not like the activities of the directors he could sell his shares and move out.

The amendment was rejected by 170 votes to 117—Government majority, 53.

Impact of exchange rate of sterling on trade

In January, 1980, exports from the United Kingdom were valued at *£3,879m and imports at £4,225m.*

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade (South Hertfordshire, C) said during questions.

Mr David Knox (Leek, C) said: Exports would have been *much* higher and imports lower *if* the exchange rate on sterling had been more reasonable. Has he drawn the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the damage done to British trade by the current high level of the exchange rate.

Mr Parkinson—MPs have to get out of the habit of thinking the Government can fine-tune exchange rates.

Mr Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C)—What effect does he think the 17 per cent minimum lending rate has had on the exchange rate?

Mr Parkinson—Very little indeed. (Opposition protests.) What the 17 per cent interest rate reflects is the fact we have a high inflation rate and if money is not going to be loaned by *depositors to banks at an* unfair rate of return and borrowed at a low rate of interest which does not reflect its real value, changing that circumstance would not help at all.

Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman on trade (North Lanarkshire, *Lab)—How can British exporters* possibly succeed when the exchange rate is so high and buoyed up by North Sea Oil? The Government should influence exchange rate policy so exports get a reasonable chance in world markets.

Mr Parkinson—In his short period as Secretary of State for Trade, he obviously never studied the performance of Switzerland, Germany and Japan who, against a *background of high exchange rates,* contrived to improve their productivity, competitiveness and industrial performance.

Ensuring aerospace workers have stake in business

House of Lords

If British Aerospace remained nationalized it would not be long before all the disincentives and disadvantages of nationalization would be hanging around its neck like an albatross, Lord Trefgarne, a Lord-in-Waiting, said when he moved the second reading of the British Aerospace Bill.

The purpose of the Bill is to transform the British Aerospace *Corporation into a new limited* company—British Aerospace Limited.

Lord Trefgarne said British Aerospace competed in one of the fiercest international markets. The Government's aim was to ensure it could do so wholeheartedly and without distraction. In future British Aerospace Ltd would be liable to the pressures, and only *those pressures, which applied to* any other private sector company.

It would be free from the statutory incubus which was inevitable for a nationalized industry. Matters would be left *to the good* sense and judgment of the directors of the new company as they were throughout the private sector.

The successor company would be free to raise finance on the commercial markets of the world. It would have no special claim on the public purse. The *intention* was to create a free standing company independent of government and divorced from automatic government subsidy.

An essential feature of the Government's policy was to ensure that responsibility for this key industry lay in the hands of those who worked in it. The Government would not intervene in the commercial administration of the company.

The flexible formula the Government had devised, without the shackles of government control, meant that provided the new *company continued to produce the* right products at the right time and right price the world would beat a path to its door.

Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede, an *Opposition spokesman, said it was* one of the most unnecessary Bills which had been brought before the House this session. It served no good public purpose other than satisfying the ideological aspirations of the Government. It was introducing an element of uncertainty into the industry.

The *cost of flotation* would place a heavy new burden on the industry and the cost of running the industry would be higher. It would be wrong for this important British industry to come under foreign control but the Government was prepared to see a 15 per cent stockholding by foreigners.

Could a similar situation to that which *occurred at Consolidated* Gold Fields develop within British Aerospace ? The foreign shareholding must be properly monitored. There should be tighter provisions and a lower limit placed on the foreign shareholding.

The Earl of Amherst (L) said the Government's shareholding should *not be allowed to fall below 51* per cent to prevent any attempt at infiltration of foreign interests or even foreign governments through nominees.

There should be some provision for all ranks of the workforce to invest in it if they so wished.

He hoped the company would be free to go about its business without any further political interference.

Lord Orr-Ewing (C) said this solution was sensible. A more market-oriented company would provide a quicker and more flexible response.

Lord Wynne-Jones (Lab) said the purpose of the Bill was to disintegrate something which had been set up and was working well. The industry should not be made the plaything of political whimsy.

He had read *in The Times today* that the original owners of BAC *had only been paid 20 per cent* of what they claimed they ought to have received. Now the assets they used to have were to be sold. What would happen to the *compensation for these companies* ? Were they to be left out nicely in the cold ?

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, Lord-in-Waiting, *said* the Bill would provide continuity and stability for the industry. It would give greater opportunities and freedom to the existing organization and *the people who managed and* worked in it. . . .

. . In the private sector British Aerospace would be better able to build on its present strength and prosper in the competitive international markets in which it must do its business.

The Government had discussed the possibilities for share ownership for the employees with British Aerospace and *invited* views from trade unions with members in the industry. Whatever scheme was adopted, the Government would ensure the workers could have a continuing stake *in the business.*

It was hoped to make a definite announcement of the arrangements proposed in the near future.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Bees BGill was read a third time and passed.

Law Report

Court of Appeal

No liability on ministry for vibrating drills

Joseph v Ministry of Defence

Before Lord Justice Megaw, Lord Justice *Eveleigh* and Lord Justice Brandon

[Judgment delivered February 29]

A man who developed serious *symptoms of vibration induced* white finger after working as a caulker-riveter for many years in a dockyard failed in his claim for damages for personal injuries against the Ministry of Defence as his employers. The Court of Appeal found that the ministry was not negligent in failing to *warn caulker-riveters in its employ* what the symptoms of white finger were and to introduce a system of regular medical examinations.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Mr James Henry Joseph, of Southsea, Hampshire, from the dismissal of his claim for damages for personal injury by Mr Justice Watkins in September, 1978, and said that his case was wholly exceptional.

Mr Michael Hutchison, QC, and Mr Anthony Temple for Mr Joseph ; Mr John Newey, QC, and Mr Ian Glick for the ministry.

LORD JUSTICE MEGAW, in a judgment of the court, said that Mr Joseph had been employed in Portsmouth Dockyard for 38 years, *for 22 years as a riveter-caulker,* using electrically powered tools which *vibrated. In September,* 1972, he noticed symptoms which were, in fact, symptoms of a physical condition now known as vibration induced white finger (VWF). He experienced *numbness* and whiteness of the finger tips which got worse, and in February, 1973, he found that he could not hold any vibrating tool. He went *to his doctor,* by which time all his fingers and his thumbs were affected. He was off work for seven weeks and when he returned he was given other duties. He never thereafter used vibratory tools, and retired in 1977.

Much was unknown about VWF at that time, and much the subject of doubt or disagreement. It was one species of a more general condition known as Raynaud's Phenomenon. The condition, which tended to become worse with increasing exposure to vibration, was *irreversible, but it did not deteriorate further* after a man ceased to use vibratory tools.

Mr Joseph, on appeal, said that the ministry in 1971 either knew or *ought to have realized* that there was, or was likely to be found to be, a substantial incidence of VWF among riveters and caulkers in its naval dockyards. If the ministry authorities *did not know they* ought to have been sufficiently aware of it to have a survey made to find out whether there was such an incidence. They would have found that there was a *substantial* incidence of the condition and, in addition to certain steps which they in fact put in hand in 1972 and 1973, they should have warned *all riveters and caulkers in the* dockyards about VWF and its symptoms, and also about the danger of the progressiveness of the condition. They should also have arranged *where VWF existed* in any degree for workers to report for periodic medical examination ; and if the condition of any worker was progressing he should be *taken off work involving* the use of vibratory tools.

The judge had held that Mr Joseph was wrong *in* submitting that the ministry ought to have known of the incidence of VWF in the dockyard. Their Lordships disagreed. It was a necessary inference from the evidence that there was at the end of 1971 general awareness among senior medical officers at Devonport Dockyard of a not insignificant incidence of VWF among employees who used vibratory tools.

What were the facts which the ministry should have known? A survey of riveters and caulkers in Rosyth Dockyard in early 1972 showed that not one of the 69 employees who participated was in the later two stages of the disease, stages 3 and 4.

That feature of the survey was confirmed by the fact that with the exception of Mr Joseph and one other possible case, no other case was known where a ministry employee, in the category with which the court was concerned, had given up, or been required to give up, the use of vibratory tools by reason of *suffering from* a VWF condition.

Ought the ministry to have taken the steps which Mr Joseph asserted should have been taken? It was accepted on the evidence that the only way to arrest the progress of VWF would be *to require the person to cease* to do a job requiring the use of the vibratory tools ; in other words, for a caulker *to cease to* be a caulker with all that that *might involve for him* in the terms of employment and money. The ministry did not do those things. If there was *any* duty on the ministry to warn its employees, it was clearly a duty *to give them* a true, clear and adequate statement which would include in it as precise an indication as could reasonably be given of the circumstances of VWF development in which the employee would be required to give up his work as a caulker.

The only advantage of introducing the proposed measures of *warning and medical examinations* and a system of compulsory cessation of vibratory tool work would be in relation to the possibility that, despite the evidence of the Rosyth survey and the absence of any record of any such cases in the past, a stage 3 case might, exceptionally, occur, perhaps passing on to stage 4.

Mr Joseph's case was such an exceptional case. The question whether the ministry was in breach of duty for not taking the steps suggested depended upon the weighing of various factors. One *important one* was how likely or unlikely was it that such a case would occur. On the information available their Lordships would have thought that the answer must be extremely unlikely. What would have been the reaction to *any such* warning or instruction or system? It would seem likely to cause alarm and unhappiness, and possibly to lead to not insubstantial practical disadvantage to the many, for the sake of providing some advantage to the potential exceptional case.

Their Lordships arrived at the same conclusion as the judge but for different reasons : on the *facts* it had not been shown that the ministry was in breach of duty towards Mr Joseph. The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors : Lamport, Bassitt & Hiscock, Southampton ; Treasury Solicitor.

Law Report March 3 1980 Court of Appeal

Jury vetting: judicial disapproval

Regina v Sheffield Crown Court Ex parte Brownlow
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Brandon

Although the decision of a Crown Court judge that the solicitors for the defendants in a pending criminal trial be supplied with a copy of the panel of jurors with details of any convictions recorded against any person on it related to "trial on indictment" within the meaning of section 10(5) of the Courts Act, 1971, and accordingly the High Court had no power to review the judge's decision, the Court of Appeal expressed serious doubts whether there should be any jury vetting at all, either by the prosecution or the defence.

The court, the Master of the Rolls dissenting on the power of review, dismissed an appeal by Mr James Hilton Brownlow, Chief Constable of South Yorkshire, from the dismissal by the Divisional Court (the Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Park) of his application to quash an order made by Judge Pickles in the Crown Court, Sheffield, on October 4 that he (the Chief Constable) be supplied with a copy of the panel of jurors for the jury in a case in which two Sheffield police officers were charged and that he should supply to the solicitors for the defence and for the prosecution full details of any criminal convictions recorded against any member of the panel.

Section 10 of the Courts Act provides: "(1) Subsections (2) and (3) below have effect as respects any order, judgment or other decision of the Crown Court (a) other than a judgment or other decision relating to trial on indictment. ... (5) In relation to the jurisdiction of the Crown Court, other than its jurisdiction in matters relating to trial on indictment, the High Court shall have all such jurisdiction to make orders of mandamus, prohibition and certiorari as the High Court possesses in relation to the jurisdiction of an inferior court".

Mr Simon Brown and Mr John Laws for the chief constable; Mr Nigel Fricker, QC, and Mr Alastair McCallum for the accused police officers.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the two officers had been committed for trial at Sheffield Crown Court charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm. The court officials made up the list of the names and addresses of the persons to be summoned as jurors, the jury panel. Before the trial solicitors for the accused wrote to the county prosecuting solicitor asking for an investigation of the jury panel as it was thought "it would be in the interest of justice for the defence to be informed whether any members of the jury panel had criminal convictions." That was a plain request that the police should go through their records to see if any persons on the panel had any previous convictions – not only for serious offences which would disqualify them from jury service, but also for less serious offences.

The prosecuting solicitor refused. On October 4, 1979, counsel went before the judge who was due to try the case. The judge ordered that the chief constable be supplied with a copy of the panel of jurors from which the jury was to be drawn and that he supply to the solicitors for the defence and prosecution full details of any criminal proceedings recorded against any member of the panel. The judge was happy to hear that his decision was to be tested in a higher court.

The chief constable had applied for certiorari for the judge's order to be quashed. The Divisional Court held it had no jurisdiction to entertain the application and made no pronouncement about jury vetting. If the decision was correct, it meant that no court in the land could test the judge's order. The law on the important subject of jury vetting would have been settled by a Crown Court judge.

It had been contended that it was an appeal on a "criminal cause or matter" (section 31(1)(a) of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act, 1925) and that no appeal lay. But it was not a judgment in a "criminal cause or matter": see *Armand v Secretary of State for Home Affairs* ([1943] AC147) and *R v Southampton Justices* ([1976] QB11) and an appeal did lie.

The important issue depended on two words, "relating to", in section 10(5) of the Courts Act. Was the judge's order for jury vetting a matter "relating to trial on indictment"?

Once again the court had the vexed problem of statutory interpretation. In *Newbury District Council v International Synthetic Rubber Co Ltd* (*The Times*, March 1) five judges in the House of Lords had given a different meaning to the word "repository" to that given to it by the Secretary of State and six judges below, including the Lord Chief Justice, the Master of the Rolls, two Lords Justices and two High Court judges. The five thought it clear their way. The six thought it clear the other way. The five prevailed.

To get rid of those continuous conflicts, his Lordship would suggest the principle: whenever there was a conflict between two interpretations, the choice was a matter of policy for the law—which gave the more sensible result? Nine times out of 10 judges would agree on the sensible result—even if they disagreed on the semantic or linguistic result.

In *Express Newspapers Ltd v McShane* (*The Times*, December 14, 1979; [1980] 2 WLR 89) five judges had held that the test of "furtherance" was objective and four that it was subjective. The choice was not a semantic or linguistic experience. It was one of the policy of the law, or of public policy, which the judges had to decide subsequent events and comments had shown convincingly that the four in the majority in the House of Lords had made the wrong choice.

His lordship thought that the words "relating to" should be interpreted "as closely relating to"; in the instant case so as to be confined to "closely relating to". The order made by the judge was not a "matter relating to trial on indictment". It could be reviewed by the court by the prerogative writ of certiorari.

The circuit judge had made an order upon a public officer, a chief constable, who was not a party to any trial or cause defending before the judge.

The order was in the nature of a mandamus. The judge had no jurisdiction to make it.

On "jury vetting", there were two rival philosophies. One, which prevailed in the United States, said that the parties to a dispute ought to know whether the jurors were suitable to try the case and ought to have access to the antecedents of those on the panel so that they could object to those unsuitable to sit in judgment. Potential jurors could be cross-examined before they were sworn.

That philosophy had never prevailed in England. Our philosophy was that a jury should be selected at random from a panel of jurors nominated at random. We thought that 12 people selected at random were likely to be a cross section of the people as a whole and so represent the views of the common man. Some might be moral, others not. Some might be honest, others not. Some might be bad drivers with many convictions against them. Others with nothing against them.

Subject to the exceptions that if a man had served three months in prison in the last 10 years he was disqualified, or that the prosecution had asked that he "stand by for the Crown", or because the defence had exercised their right of peremptory challenge, the principle of English law was that jurors should be selected at random.

In recent times there had been a change. Some prosecuting authorities seemed to have searched through the criminal records of the jury panel and then, if they thought that anyone was unsuitable, to require him to "stand by for the Crown". The Attorney-General had disclosed that up to last year Northamptonshire police were checking all jury panels against records and passing the information on to prosecuting counsel.

To his Lordship's mind it was unconstitutional for the police authorities to engage in "jury vetting". So long as a person was eligible for jury service, it could not be right that, behind his back, the police should go through his record so as to enable him to be asked to "stand by for the Crown" or to be challenged by the defence. If that sort of thing was allowed, what became of a man's right to privacy? He was bound to serve on a jury when summoned. He should not thereby be liable to have his past raked up and handed on a plate to prosecuting and defending lawyers who might use it to keep him out of the jury; and it might become known to his neighbours and those around him.

In 1975 the Attorney-General introduced guidelines on "jury vetting" which only permitted such vetting in very rare cases with his express permission.

Since 1925 there had only been 25 cases notified of a jury check: 14 serious offences with a political element and 11 serious gang cases.

The judge's order had been far outside the Attorney General's guide lines, assuming that they were legitimate. The offence of assault occasioning grievous bodily harm was a minor one, and if there were "jury vetting" in the instant case, the door would be open in every case. It was, of course, a matter entirely at the discretion of the trial judge as to whether he asked a question of a particular juror as to his suitability. That was an entirely different matter to the police going through the jury panels to see whether any had convictions.

His Lordship thought that the judge's order should be quashed. If there were no jurisdiction to quash it, his Lordship hoped that an application would be made to the judge for him to reverse his order.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW said that the Courts Act preserved a general supervisory jurisdiction in the High Court over decisions in the Crown Court. That was subject to the important exception in section 10(5) of "matters relating to trial on indictment". With all respect to the broad principles stated by the Master of the Rolls, his Lordship could not see that the expression "matters relating to trial on indictment" admitted of substantial argument.

It was plain that any decision of a Crown Court which appertained to, or arose, in connexion with its jurisdiction to try cases on indictment came within the exclusory provisions in section 10(1) and (5). The phrase "trial on indictment" was a general reference not to a specific event or occasion but to a jurisdiction.

Any decision as to a matter which arose out of, or incidentally to, or related to, a proximate or a remote one, fell into the immunity from review by the High Court.

Apart from any question of construction there were formidable historical and practical justifications for that immunity.

The Courts Act, 1971, abolished courts of assize and of quarter sessions. It established Crown Courts, which embodied both their jurisdictions. In its jurisdiction relating to trial on indictment the Crown Court was the direct heir of the assize courts wherein the judges held the commission of the sovereign to hold courts of general jail delivery and of oyer and terminer. It would have been a derogation of their status and function in that judicial office of high consequence to be subject to the review of any court. The authority of judges of assize in the trial of cases on indictment was paramount and their decisions could not be questioned.

Nor could the authority of Crown Court judges be questioned in matters relating to their jurisdiction to try cases on indictment. Theirs must be not only the first but also the last word. A judge of assize could revoke or review or modify any order or decision he had made before the trial of an offender had been finally disposed of; but he was not subject to external review. It would be no less invidious and inappropriate in the case of a judge of the Crown Court as in the case of other judges who presided over the trial of persons indicted for criminal offences to be subject to external control at every stage from committal until verdict.

On the practical side, if decisions by a Crown Court judge as to matters relating to trial on indictment were subject at any stage to review by the High Court, the trial of a particular cause might be interminably delayed by incidental applications to the High Court.

The Divisional Court had rightly rejected the application for review on the ground that it had no jurisdiction to entertain it, and the appeal should be dismissed.

The circuit judge, however, had invited the guidance of a higher court on a matter of genuine public concern. His Lordship shared the view of the Master of the Rolls that any order or direction of a court designed to facilitate the selection of a jury by methods not directly provided for by the Juries Act, 1974, or countenanced by the common law was unconstitutional. The use of any special knowledge given by facilities for access to criminal records enabling the prosecution to ask for a "stand by" in respect of anyone on a jury panel who appeared unsuitable to act as a juror would be an abuse as contrary to the tenor and principle of jury service.

It was possible to conceive of very special cases where public interest demanded "jury vetting" but even then it should require the express sanction of the Attorney General. Such a course should not be adopted merely to reinforce a prosecution by excluding from a jury persons who might be anti-authority or pro-defence. Although defendants could not be prevented from making inquiries about the antecedents of those on jury panels, such inquiries should be conducted so as not to harass or intimidate anyone on the panel. A court should not add its authority to such inquiries by making an order of the kind made by the judge. It was an order that the judge might wish to reconsider with a view to its revocation.

The order was especially undesirable because the accused were police officers. It put them in a special category of accused who were given a facility not accorded to others who faced trial on indictment. To the public it might appear, albeit without justification, that it showed some measure of partiality to police officers as distinct from others. It was necessary to ensure that those called to discharge the important duty of sitting on a jury in a criminal trial were left to give a true verdict according to the evidence free from any apprehension or disquiet as to the exposure of some matter which was discreditable to them. Juries must not be exposed to prodding and probing if they were to discharge their duties fearlessly and impartially.

LORD JUSTICE BRANDON said that he felt bound to dismiss the appeal because he agreed with the Divisional Court that reviewing the order of Judge Pickles would involve reviewing the jurisdiction of the Crown Court in a matter relating to trial on indictment and that the Divisional Court's jurisdiction to do that was excluded by the express exception in section 10(5) of the Courts Act.

Since there was no jurisdiction to review the order complained of, his Lordship would prefer not to express any opinion on the way in which the case should be decided if such jurisdiction existed. He would, however, make two general observations about the practice of jury vetting.

First, his Lordship had serious doubt whether there should be any jury vetting at all, either by the prosecution or the defence. Secondly, if jury vetting was to be permitted by the prosecution in certain categories of cases, however and by whomsoever those categories might be defined, it hardly seemed just that it should not be permitted to the defence in any categories of cases at all.

Solicitors: Director of Public Prosecutions; Barrington Black, Austin & Co, Leeds.

Soldier killed: statutory limit on damages

Harker v Caledonian Insurance Company

The House of Lords held that where a British soldier while serving in British Honduras in 1968 was severely injured when he was run down by a local car owner/driver near Belize and later died, the sum recoverable on his behalf and on behalf of his estate in a direct action in England against the driver's insurers was limited to 4,000 Belizean dollars (about £1,000), the monetary limit for compulsory third party insurance under the British Honduras Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) Ordinance, 1958, although in an action brought against the driver in the Supreme Court of Belize in 1973 he had recovered a consent judgment for 175,000 Belizean dollars (about £42,500), with interests and costs, which the driver could not pay.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the soldier's father as his sole executor from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Roskill and Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce, the Master of the Rolls dissenting) ([1979] 2 Lloyd's Rep 193) which affirmed Mr Justice Donaldson's decision that the insurers' liability in the direct action against them was limited to the 4,000 dollars specified in the Ordinance and interest thereon, together with any costs incurred in the Belize action.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the Ordinance, like our corresponding legislation at the time, made it compulsory for motor vehicle users to take out a third party risks insurance policy; and also, like our legislation, gave the victim who recovered judgment against the insured person a direct right of action against his insurers. But whereas our legislation required the insurance policy to cover the assured's third party liability without any limit as to amount, the Ordinance specified monetary limits for liability, which had remained unaltered since 1958 and might now appear very low by our standards. The policy issued in the present case expressly excluded any liability of the insurers to indemnify the assured for any sum in excess of those monetary limits.

The only question was whether, on the true construction of the relevant sections of the Ordinance, the amount recoverable in the direct action against the insurers was limited to the maximum in the Ordinance for which they undertook by the policy to indemnify the assured, or whether the amount recoverable in a direct action was not subject to any monetary limit, whatever the terms of the policy might be.

His Lordship, like the judge and the majority of the Court of Appeal, found that the wording of the Ordinance was clear and unambiguous. The Master of the Rolls had considered that the result of the Ordinance would be unjust if the words were given their plain meaning.

It was not for the House to speculate on what policy reasons lay behind the decision in British Honduras in 1958 to impose monetary limits on the liability to third parties against which motor vehicle users were to be compelled to insure. An obvious commercial consequence of monetary limits would be that premiums for compulsory insurance would be much smaller than if the insurers' liability were unlimited; and the policy might have been to keep the cost of compulsory insurance down to a figure that the average British Honduras motorist in 1958 could afford.

Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen and Lord Keith of Kinkel agreed.

Availability of expert reports

Mallick v Allied Schools Agency Ltd

A party in an action may put in evidence, under RSC Order 38, rule 42, any expert report disclosed to him by another party pursuant to an order made on the summons for directions, the Court of Appeal held when reversing a decision of Mr Justice Lawson.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS, sitting with Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Dunn, said that the judge had been in error in ruling that the report of the plaintiff's expert, because it had been disclosed under an order made on the summons for directions, did not come within Part IV of Order 38 and, therefore could not be put in evidence by the defendants. A report so disclosed was, by virtue of Order 25, rule 3(a), disclosed in accordance with Part IV.

Legal Appointments

Bernard Levin presents some advice to Britain's Olympic athletes

Moscow gold . . . the basest metal of all

Today, the British Olympic Committee meets to decide whether to advise British athletes to participate in the Soviet Propaganda Games in Moscow, or to recognize that the Soviet Union, by her breach of some *ten* of the provisions of the Olympic Charter and her invasion, subjugation and occupation of a formerly independent state which was itself a member of the Olympic movement, has put herself outside the comity of nations. Ought the Olympic competitors *of states not obliged, by the* fact of their own vassalage within the Soviet Empire, to do whatever the imperial power demands, to provide the sanction of their attendance for a show which, for the host country, is to be used *only* as a means of furthering the aims of Soviet tyranny?

I think the committee should advise British athletes not to go to Moscow, and today I want to present the arguments in support of that contention. And to begin with, let me offer three quotations from official Soviet sources. The first is from the most recent (1979) edition of the Soviet Government's *Handbook for Party Activists*, which contains the rules for those Soviet citizens who are specifically charged with the advancing of Soviet interests within their country and around the world.

> *The decision to offer the* honoured right to hold the Olympic Games in the capital of the first Socialist State was convincing *proof* of the universal recognition of the historical importance and correctness of the course of our country's foreign policy....

The second quotation is from an official handbook, called *Soviet Sports — Questions and Answers*, published in Moscow (in English) by the Novosti Press.

> *The view popular in the* West that "Sport is outside politics" finds no support in the USSR. This view *is* untenable in our country.... When, for instance, Soviet representatives call for the expulsion of the South African and Rhodesian racists from the Olympic movement this is, of course, a political move.... So whenever someone says that sport lies outside the framework of political relations, we feel their remark is not a serious one.

As a matter of fact, I have never thought that *Lord Killanin's* remarks on the subject of sport and politics have been very serious, but it is useful to have the Soviet Union's contemptuous view of him and his case so clearly expressed.

The third quotation is from a speech made at the time of the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. This is what the speaker had to say about *aggression*:

> No peace-loving country, no person of integrity, should remain indifferent when that sort of thing happens, when an aggressor holds human life and world public opinion in insolent contempt.

Summed up

That statement was made almost exactly a year ago today by Mr Kosygin, the Soviet Prime Minister. In a sense, the whole story is summed up in my three excerpts: two demonstrate the fact that for the Soviet Union *the games constitute only* an opportunity for political action and propaganda (itself a breach of the Olympic Charter), and the other demonstrates no less clearly the baseness and corruption of those whose army is at this moment in military occupation of Afghanistan after military aggression — against that country, and who are, in the fullest sense of the phrase, "holding human life and world public opinion in insolent contempt".

And that is the country which is to be rewarded for its breaches of the Olympic Charter and programme of armed conquest of independent states, by being encouraged to claim "universal recognition of the *historical importance and* correctness of the course of our country's foreign policy". And faced with the implications of the Soviet Union's manifest unfitness to be allowed to hold the games after her invasion of Afghanistan, all Lord Killanin, Chairman of the International Olympic Committee, can say, is that other means should be *found "to resolve ideological* differences".

Whatever happens to the Olympic Games, this year or in the future, if weasel words of that kind prevail, then our world is doomed, and deserves to be. Just so might some appeaser in the 1930s have said of efforts to stop Hitler's aggression that means other *than resistance to it should be* used "to resolve ideological differences". The rattle of the chains from the Soviet concentration camps, the screams of the tortured in their psychiatric prisons, the rumble of the tanks on the roads of Afghanistan, the tears of the captive peoples of the Soviet European Empire—these *things are presumably "ideological* differences", which must be "resolved"—by, I take it, ideologues—lest the appeasers should have to admit the truth about the way in which rulers like the Soviet ones use sport as an instrument of ideology exactly as they use the censor's pencil, the jailer's key and the soldier's gun.

If the appeasers admitted that, of course, they would have to admit much more; that the Soviet Union was ineligible 10 times over under the Olympic rules to stage the games, *long before* the invasion of Afghanistan was contemplated; that the claim that the IOC keeps politics out of sport is false; and that the shameful pleasure of strutting in the Moscow limelight is more enticing than the stern dictates of honour.

Those things the IOC cannot admit. Within *one week* after refusing to cancel or postpone the Moscow Games, a refusal based on the claim that such an action would be a political one, the International Olympic *Committee expelled the Taiwan* team, on *entirely* political grounds. Taiwan's claim to call herself "The Republic of China" had naturally displeased the Chinese Government in Peking, so Lord Killanin and his committee duly obliged with the political decision required of them. They did the same at Montreal, too, *when the Trudeau Government* excluded the Taiwanese for the same political reason; the IOC ratified the decision. No less exclusively political was the expulsion from the Olympic movement of South Africa (Lord Killanin's insistence that the Soviet Union must at all costs be allowed to keep the games is now particularly *odious in view of the grossly* racialist character of that country's policies). I am not here concerned to argue whether Taiwan should be allowed to call herself the Republic of China, whether South Africa ought to be allowed to participate in international sporting events. These are matters on which there can *clearly be two opinions;* but only one is possible when it comes to the falsity of the IOC's claim that it cannot, and does not, take political decisions.

It is time for a fourth quotation. Who said this in March, 1936, when the terror was getting under way in Germany, when the whole array of anti-semitism was being put into force there, when rearming for aggression was Hitler's chief and unconcealed concern—and *when preparation for a colossal Nazi propaganda show at* the Berlin Olympics was going busily forward?

> These games . . . play a real part in creating a better understanding between the nations of the world . . . it would be nothing short of calamity if this country, to whom the world often looks for a lead, were not fully *represented* . . . the Germans are deeply conscious of the obligations which they have entered into by undertaking to hold them in their country.

The voice is that of Lord *Exeter; he wrote those words* in a letter to this newspaper, published on March 7, 1936, and he can at any rate now claim to be consistent in his folly.

Let me sum up. The Soviet Union, contrary to the letter as well as the spirit of the Olympic Charter, uses the *Olympic* movement entirely for prop*aganda purposes, pays her* Olympic athletes, discriminates among athletes on grounds of race and political opinion, does not abide by the rules for freedom of communications, allows her Olympic Committee no independence from the state—indeed makes it an integral part of the State machine—and concludes the list of her *offences against the Olympic* rules by invading and occupying a fellow-member of the Olympic movement. Today, the British Olympic Committee meets to decide whether to ratify those breaches of the rules and of the decencies alike; its present policy is to do so, and this is the last formal chance it has of deciding *instead to abide by the Olympic* Charter.

Who is exempt?

Now suppose the members of the Committee do decide that the charter does not matter, that aggression does not matter, that the fielding of an entirely professional team does not matter, that censorship does not matter, that racism does not matter—that *nothing* matters beside having fun in Moscow. I fear they *will* so decide; nothing in the conduct of Sir Denis Follows suggests any other course of action, and those affiliated sports associations whose members are opposed to attending the games in Moscow are, so far at any rate, clearly in the *minority. What then?*

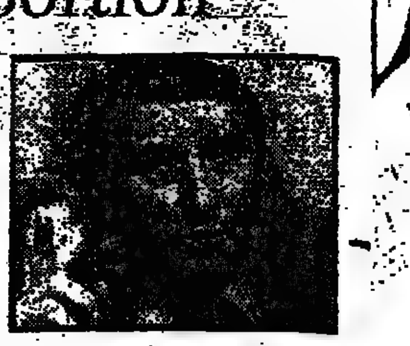
Why, then, it behoves me to ask our athletes, severally and collectively, what makes them think that they are exempt *from the general obligations of* human beings not to behave like *brutes*? Why, because their splendid bodies can run faster or jump higher than other people's, do they suppose they need not mind about helping tyrants to further the work of tyranny? What do they mean when they say (as some already have) that it is "up to the politicians" to take action over the Moscow Olympics? Do they not even understand that in a democracy *we* are the politicians, the ones at Westminster being only our representatives? Do they admit no obligation to their common humanity with those whom their Moscow hosts oppress? Does it not matter to them that no Jew who has expressed a desire to emi*grate from the Soviet Union, no* man or woman who has been caught reading a forbidden book about freedom could be picked for the Soviet Olympic team, that those athletes who *are* picked for it will be spied upon night and day in the Olympic Village by KGB men, that the athletes who come from free countries like ours will be used *by the Soviet Union not as* examples of fine sportsmen and women, but as men and women who have come to Moscow to offer "recognition of the historical importance and correctness of the Soviet Union's foreign policy"?

No man is an island; not even if he is an athlete. Any man's death diminishes me; even *if I* am an athlete. Send not to ask for whom the bell tolls; even if you are an athlete, it tolls for thee. Each athlete, once the political decision to go to Moscow is taken, will have to decide for himself or herself whether to acquiesce in it. Let none be under any illusion: by going to Moscow and giving the Soviet Union a victory for propaganda following a victory for aggression, they will be condoning tyranny, disgracing themselves and betraying the ideals of sport. They may, it *is* true, win *medals*, of gold, silver or bronze. But not all the skills of alchemy will ever transmute their prizes into anything but tarnished badges of shame.

Time to give politics a sense of proportion

We have endured 35 years of British party games: winner take all despite a minority vote; five years in the wilderness for the rest, whose only incentive lies in making whoever runs the government of the country fail.

The Germans, *starting from a heap of rubble* when we were the richest and most respected country in Europe, are now man for man twice as productive and twice as prosperous as we are—and the parliaments produced by their proportional representation system have played a big part. Should we—and could we—follow their *example?*



Mr Steel may expect a proposal

In Germany half the 496 seats (248) are "constituency seats" won by those who were first past the post. The other 248 are "list seats" filled from the pool of other candidates who did not win constituency seats. They are allocated to bring the *total number of seats* held by each party (constituency plus list) *to the proportion of the total vote* that party received, nationwide. To avoid a plethora of splinter parties, no party gets any list seats at all unless it gains at least 5 per cent of the total national vote.

To apply this in the United Kingdom, one variation would be essential: the Scottish Nationlist Party would receive *list seats to give representation* in proportion to the total vote in Scotland, provided that it got at least 5 per cent of the Scottish vote. The same would apply to Wales and Northern Ireland.

If the votes cast in the British general election of May 1979 had been computed under the German system the result would have been as shown in the table below.

Most Conservative and Labour MPs would have strongly resisted such a system. First, 31 Labour *and 57 Conservatives* would have lost their seats. Secondly, if the result had been a coalition between say, the 282 Conservatives and 89 Liberal MPs, the Government posts (from minister to pps) would presumably have gone to 77 Conservatives and 23 Liberals instead of all 100 to the Conservatives; *finally*, the age of *manifesto government* would have been over. (Hurrah!)

How, then, could it come about? If the 200 or so Social Democratic MPs in the Parliamentary Labour Party fail to regain control of party policy, their best hope of re-election will be to let the Labour Party and its NEC stew in its own overdraft and break away to form a new Social Democratic Party (SDP), disowning marxism and clause 4.

They should negotiate in advance with Mr David Steel, and publicly announce that the SDP would make an electoral pact with the Liberal Party and form a coalition government which, if elected in 1984, would pledge to introduce the German PR system before the 1989 election. Thereafter each party could keep its options open.

Could such a new party get *off the ground? Seeing* where the power would lie, most trade unions would subscribe. So would a lot of industrial firms. So, with cheers of relief, would millions of other people.

Faced with such a threat, moderate Conservative MPs might consider a revolt from the right and try to pre-empt the SDP by making a similar proposal to Mr Steel. Whichever suitor he chose would be virtually certain of power. The influence of both sides bidding for the centre would be the best thing that could happen to British politics.

The prospect of power (as predicted in the ORC poll in *The Times* of January 17) would draw on voters to the centre. By 1989 the likely balance of seats would be 30 per cent moderate Tory, 30 per cent Liberal and 30 per cent FDP with only 10 per cent shared *between the right and left* rumps. The Opposition would therefore vary from a Liberal/FDP or Liberal/Tory coalition to a "corporatist" FDP/moderate Tory coalition with the Liberals finding common ground with Thatcherites and Bennites (as pointed out by Ian Bradley on February 27) in an opposition of individualists and libertarian radicals.

There is a myth that PR produces weak, indecisive governments. The Germans' system patently does not. They have *had strong*, stable coalition governments, supported by a majority of voters, anchored to the centre (where most voters on both sides wish them to be), and they have not repeatedly reversed or disrupted each others' policies as ours have. Their government (and therefore their society) *works*. Ironically we helped them to design it. It's high time we took our own advice.

Richard Clutterbuck

This article is based on the author's "Britain in Agony", published by Penguin Books in February.

Party	% of national vote	Seats won under present system	Seats won under PR system	Remarks
Conservative	43.87	339	282	
Labour	36.84	269	237	
Liberal	13.82	11	89	
SNP	1.61	2	12	17.3% of Scottish vote
Plaid Cymru	0.42	2	3	8.4% of Welsh vote
NI Unionist	1.29	10	8	57.8% of NI vote
SDLP	0.40	1	2	18.2% of NI vote
Alliance	0.27	—	1	11.8% of NI vote
Independent	0.07	1*	1*	3.2% of NI vote
NF	0.61	—	—	303 candidates
CPGB	0.05	—	—	38 candidates
WRP	0.04	—	—	60 candidates
Others	0.71	—	—	
Total	100.00	635	635	

*Elected for constituency seat.

Washington repair job

Bonn

Another chapter in the Afghanistan story closes this week, in the German view, with the meeting in Washington between Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, and President Carter.

Their talks round off an intense phase of meetings and phone consultations between *the Chancellor and other* western leaders about a comprehensive western response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The West Germans are even more anxious than most to find a credible and feasible western approach. For them Afghanistan is not only a major upset to the world balance of power, *it is threatening to pull apart* the three pillars on which their foreign policy rests: first their crucial alliance with, and strategic dependence on, the United States; second their close friendship for historic and moral reasons with the former enemy, France; and third their détente policy which has brought huge and tangible rewards over Berlin, East Germany and in Eastern Europe.

Keeping atop these three pillars is requiring a political balancing act of considerable skill. *Critics who take German* caution for weakness are deeply resented here. The problems it is felt, are not understood.

Little time is spent in Bonn speculating on the motives behind the Soviet invasion. It is thought possibly to be a combination of the need to gain control of the situation there plus the thought of the strategic advantages involved.

The main thing is that they are there, upsetting the global balance, closer to the oilfields, the Indian Ocean and the West's *supply lines. They* should be induced to leave and not given a chance to do such things again.

The West Germans believe that the decision to invade had not been an easy one to make and that the Soviets had certainly not expected to stir up such a hornets nest.

What exactly the Chancellor will tell President Carter is not known in detail. A policy statement to Parliament last week, made with obvious reluctance in a debate he had not sought, contained nothing new except a yielding to the American insistence that he increase defence spending by three per cent in real terms.

But it seems certain that he will push for a "de-escalation" of the crisis, reasoning that a heightening of East-West tension will only make Moscow's attitude tougher and will limit the freedom of action for the non-aligned Asiatic countries who could play an important role in finding a solution.

Herr Schmidt and President Carter: irritation in Bonn.

Needless to say, this would suit West Germany which, with two million people in isolated West Berlin and another 17 million countrymen in communist *East Germany to think of, fears* a spill-over of tension into Europe.

How important détente is here is shown by the position of Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the opposition chancellor candidate, formerly a staunch opponent of the government's *ostpolitik* and certainly not one to be soft on communists. (*Herr Strauss maintains that* "only a fool" would not want détente, his main criticism being that Herr Schmidt's détente policy is "romantic" while his own is "realistic").

Bonn has watched with dismay as public opinion in the United States turned angrily against the Soviet Union, and President Carter, who has long got poor marks for reliability here, took a tough and punitive stance.

Over-reaction, the Chancellor told parliament, is just as poor a response as appeasement. What was needed was a thoughtful "*conflict* domination."

The Chancellor is expected to press the British proposals, adopted by the Nine community ministers, for the neutralization of Afghanistan and to report on the efforts to flesh it out in the past fortnight. One sees this as the start to a constructive long-term thinking on Afghanistan.

Another key element envisaged here is the strengthening of countries in the area unsettled by the Afghanistan invasion. It has already embarked on a massive financial and military aid operation for Turkey and is about to *increase its already substantial* aid to Pakistan.

There is considerably less enthusiasm for trade sanctions against the Soviet Union, both for political reasons and because most of West Germany's sizeable trade with the Soviet Union is guaranteed in international treaties.

There has been unconcealed irritation here at President Carter's Olympic ultimatum, made without consultation. The West Germans are holding back until May, the deadline for entries, to give the Soviet's a chance to "create the conditions for participation".

Herr Schmidt has been concerned in the effective *breakdown in lines of communi*cation between Moscow and Washington since the Afghanistan invasion and repeatedly insisted that the two powers must get talking again.

But when Herr Willy Brandt, the former chancellor and Nobel prize winner, received intimations from the Soviet ambassador here that he might use his excellent contacts in Moscow and Washington to start things moving, and this was reported in the news magazine *Der Spiegel*, the government rejected the idea of a West German role as mediator.

A certain lack of coordination made it appear as if Herr Klaus Bölling, the government spokesman, was denying the *Der Spiegel* story while Herr Brandt's associates were con*firming it, and that the govern*ment was nipping any initiative in the bud.

What apparently really happened was that Herr Brandt did receive a hint from the Soviets and discussed it with President Carter who said something to the effect that any such help might be a good thing. There was no request from either side for formal mediation and Herr Brandt is as convinced as the chancellor that for West Germany, tied as she is to the western alliance, such a role is *unthinkable. There have been* suggestions that the move could have been intended to lever West Germany into a more neutral position.

Nevertheless, with his highly cautious remarks Herr Bölling appeared to leave the door open for informal contacts by Herr Brandt and Herr Brandt himself has reiterated his willingness to help if needed.

It is probably too late now, however, since the publicity aroused by the *Spiegel* story has no doubt destroyed any chance of Herr Brandt talking to people in Moscow and Washington with the degree of privacy and discretion that he would need.

Patricia Clough

LONDON DIARY

Jean Rhys: a wide uncharted sea

When that most respected *English novelist Jean Rhys died* last year, her few friends and many readers were taken by surprise, for she led a life of such solitude they assumed she had been dead for years. Now it is revealed that one of her last acts was to place another padlock on a secretive and often unhappy life; her will, published a few days ago, expressly *forbids the writing of any un*authorized biographies.

That is a pity, because her sometimes bohemian, frequently disorganized and occasionally tragic life story would be required reading for all feminists. She had three husbands, one of whom died in her presence and another of whom went to jail for embezzlement. More than once the men in her life left her in confusion and with no visible means of support.

She had two children, both by her first husband; one died in infancy. She was particularly *upset, according to her friend* and editor Diana Athill, at the suggestion made by an American biographer that she had had a child by Ford Madox Ford, who first encouraged her to write. After that she took a strong dislike to biographers, and insisted that the only interesting things about writers was their work.

To set the record straight she produced an autobiography, *Smile Please*, in her later years, but it deals only with her childhood years, and in no great detail. The only other critical *study, by Thomas F. Staley*, deals chiefly with her work, as she would have wished. Her life, which began in the West Indies and ended in Cheriton, Devon, last May, remains a stormy but uncharted sea.

Her publishers report a slowly growing interest in her work, especially her best-known *novel Wide Sargasso Sea*, published in 1966, and a much earlier collection of stories, *Good Morning Midnight*. It may not be long before her executors have to fend off requests to write about her; *and judging by the case of* George Orwell, who left similar instructions only to suffer an outpouring of inaccurate biographical material, they may eventually have to relent.

She was so obfuscatory about her personal details that even her age at death, officially given as 84, is in some doubt, and she may have been nearer 89. A *woman to the last, her* final utterance on her last journey in the hospital ambulance was to demand her eye-shadow.

Blue moon?

Astronomers and devoted readers of *Old Moore's Almanac* will have noticed that March, 1980, offers the unusual spec*tacle of two full moons in one* calendar month. I have consulted several occult tomes, but I can find no evidence that this phenomenon is any kind of omen, bad or otherwise. An American informant thinks, however, that the second full moon in a month is a blue moon, hence the origin of the well-worn phrase indicating the frequency with which all British Leyland car factories are working simultaneously.

As the last two-moon month was July, 1977, there may be something in this theory. But the Royal Observatory thinks that a "blue moon" is a penumbral eclipse, while most other authorities believe the origin of the phrase to be those rare occasions when the moon really is blue, through a haze from huge forest fires or violent volcanic eruptions. A sighting was reported in Britain in 1951, since when it has *remained obstinately yellow*.

Doctor who?

I note with dismay that *some* newspapers insist on referring to the Increasingly Reverend Robert Runcie, the new head of the Anglican community, as Dr Runcie. The Archbishop of Canterbury is replete with degrees, but a doctorate in divinity is not one of them. Admittedly, in the interregnum between his appointment and his ceremonial enthronement, it *was difficult to know how to* address him.

Robert (he must in the circumstances forgive the familiarity) is the only archbishop of recent times to arrive at Lambeth Palace without the customary doctorate. In the old days it was more or less automatic that any clergyman who ascended to the height of bishop *had a DD thrust upon him as a* matter of course. But Dr Michael Ramsey, during his tenancy of Lambeth, took the view that doctorates should be earned, and they became fewer.

All will be put right, however, on June 25, when Robert will receive the coveted letters at a simple ceremony at Oxford. Not only will this put him on a par *with the Fishers and Coggans*, it will enable him to bestow Oxford degrees (known in the circumstances as Lambeth degrees) on anyone he chooses. Few of the recipients are likely to be Masters of Journalism.

Misguided

At last we have the complete trunkful of books without which no well-informed *bon viveur* should move into 1980. The Consumers' Association yesterday published the last of this year's crop, the *Good Food Guide* and the *Good Hotel Guide*, and the editors, Christopher Driver and Hilary Rubinstein respectively, were at pains to explain the difference between the two.

Well they might, since close examination shows that anyone who thinks the guides collectively make life easier is quite misguided. Thus the *Good Food Guide* distinguishes hotels "where it is a pleasure to stay for more than a weekend . . . conspicuous for the trouble they take to please their guests". The distinction goes to only 18, *yet seven of them are not in* the *Good Hotel Guide* at all.

Of the 239 hotels in the British Isles which Rubinstein does include in his book, only 63 serve food good enough to satisfy the demands of Driver.

Consulting the rivals already in the field only makes confusion worse confounded. The *Good Food Guide* awards 40 distinctions for quality of cuisine. Of those, six are completely ignored in *Egon Ronay's Lucas Guide*, and six get no mention in the *Michelin Guide*. *No, of course they are not the* same six; that would be too simple.

Ronay awards 82 establishments stars for cooking; of those, 33 do not merit a mention by Driver. The less open-handed Michelin men limit their stars to a mere 30 dining rooms, six of which are totally ignored by the *Good Food Guide*. Nowhere, in fact, gets top marks from everyone, and if you insist on universal admiration your choice is limited to two restaurants—the Connaught in London and the Waterside *Inn at Bray on the Thames.*

On the Proms

Promenade concert programme planners shiver when they think back on some of the incidents that have delayed concerts, most of them now being recalled in a book just completed by Barrie Hall, BBC Radio 3 publicity officer. The BBC *told him* to feel free to write the book even though their own commissioned official history of the Proms is coming out in time for this year's series.

Barrie's, which includes interviews with the Promenaders, has been accepted for publication and he expects the volume, entitled *The Proms and the Men who Made Them, to be ready in time for next year's* opening night.

He tells of the horn player who lost his temper over someone else's bad musicianship and dumped his own instrument on the man's head; the soprano whose dentures cracked as she was about to sing, and the pianist who walked on, lost his nerve and walked straight off again. Not to mention, of course, the occasion when someone forgot to lock the piano wheels and Stephen Bishop, as he then was, had to keep pulling it back.

And there was that curious moment three years ago when Promenaders were regaled by *the brief—and brief-less—ap*pearance of a pretty girl as the curtains of one of the boxes parted momentarily. It might, Barrie Hall thinks, not be generally known that for the first five years the Proms were not broadcast at all, since the people running them in the Queen's Hall thought audiences would prefer to listen at home.

The normally gentlemanly First Division Association, which represents senior civil servants, has drawn up a discussion paper on industrial action, outlining what measures it could use in any future conflict over pay. Its threats should have the Civil Service Department white with fear; one of the nastier tactics suggested is that everyone take their full annual leave. Great heavens, what next? Blacking the Civil Contingencies Unit, the Cabinet committee that discusses how to survive during strikes?

Alan Hamilton

Le Monde
LA STAMPA
THE TIMES
DIE WELT

Europa

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Surfeit is a burden many want to bear

New members add depth to the club

The problems of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, and the more general issue of its attitude to the Community, are no more than the epiphenomena of the perennial question which goes back to the beginnings of the EEC: Does enlargement automatically mean a loss of depth?

To the man in the street, and to many politicians, the answer seems self-evident—the more members there are in a club, the less united they will be. But all the evidence suggests that within the EEC this is not so.

In 1972, when the British, Danes and Irish were on the point of joining, the Community of Six had ground to a halt. The Council of Ministers had been hamstrung since 1966 by the reversion to the unanimity rule, the Werner plan for economic and monetary union had been stillborn, the Mansholt plan for reform of the Common Agricultural Policy had been sabotaged by the permanent coalition between the farmers and those opposed to all agricultural reform, there was still no Community regional policy, and the social policy was floundering.

France's pro-Arab stance and the pro-Israeli leanings of the five other members meant that no joint action in the great international institutions was possible. The Dehousse proposals for direct elections to the European Parliament had been blocked by France since 1960.

Not only was it scarcely possible in the circumstances for the three new member states to slow down the Community machine, but their accession helped to get a number of files reopened. For instance, it was the new members, during Ireland's presidency, who insisted on action to resolve the issue of freedom of establishment for the professions—including doctors, dentists and nurses—on which the Six had been unable to agree. (For once, the veto had come from Belgium.)

It was the British supported by the Irish, in league with the Italians, who made the others agree to the establishment of a common regional policy. It took nothing short of a crisis, in the shape of the Labour Government's threat of withdrawal from the Community to get the European Regional Fund set up. It is impossible to overstate the importance of a European Regional Fund in a Community market by steadily worsening regional disparities.

Against all expectations, the British did not block direct elections to the European Parliament, but asked for them only to be put back for one year—to 1979 instead of June, 1978, as agreed at the 1974 summit meeting in Paris—a postponement which could have done nothing but good, given the electorate's state of unpreparedness.

There have been subjects on which the new members have been less cooperative. The British have assiduously obstructed implementation of Community legislation on road transport, and the Irish have been reluctant to apply Community legislation on equal pay for men and women.

Regardless of whether the EEC has six, nine, or 12 members, it is fair to suggest that the member states take it in turn to advance or retard the building of Europe. The important thing is to ensure that it does not disintegrate, which would happen if everyone applied the brakes simultaneously.

France, under General de Gaulle, flirted with the idea of destroying the Community in 1965 when provoking the "empty chair" crisis. When the head of state stood for re-election in December 1965, the French voters took the opportunity to issue a warning about going too far. Taken to a second ballot by Jean Lecanuet on the European issue, Charles de Gaulle took the hint and France resumed its seat at Brussels in January 1966.

Britain under Harold Wilson indulged in its version of brinkmanship with the 1975 referendum on whether or not to remain in the Community. On the eve of polling day it was generally assumed that the "noes" would have it, by a margin similar to that in the Norwegian referendum held in 1973 (51 per cent against), but to everyone's surprise 67 per cent of the British people who voted wanted to stay in.

We are seeing the same thing today with the Common Agricultural Policy.

One does not break up a Community because it has succeeded too well. After all, what is the EEC accused of, apart from its generation of surpluses of milk, butter, wheat and all manner of things? As the Moscow correspondent of Agence France-Presse remarked to me one day, there are quite a few countries in Eastern Europe which would dearly love to have problems with surpluses. There is a problem and it must be solved, but penury and surfeit are two different afflictions and moreover, it is not so long ago since Western Europe was crying famine under the heel of the Nazi jackboot.

When a club is bombarded with membership applications, as the EEC is by Spain, Greece and Portugal, it is probably because it is faring rather well.

Is there any other such club in Europe which is in better fettle? The Nordic Council, whose members are all Scandinavian countries and therefore have much in common, is marking time. This is not because Denmark is now a member of the EEC. If Nordic cooperation had worked well, Denmark would not have joined the EEC.

The EEC has had the satisfaction of seeing imitations of its own institutions set up by a group of South American countries—the Commission, the Council and very recently, the Court of Justice of the Andean Pact.

In an increasingly divided world in which many organizations set up to promote international cooperation are in the throes of suffering the fate of the League of Nations, the world is going through a period of withdrawal into regional groupings within continents or subcontinents. So the notion of supranationality, which has been so misunderstood and therefore much maligned in Europe, has, after all turned out to be victorious in the export market. So let us be a little less eager to be the first to spit into our own soup.

Jean-Louis Burban

'Telematics' little threat to jobs

"Telematics"—the term used to encompass the accelerating technological revolution in the related fields of telecommunications, computers, microchips and data banks—is the new vogue word in the European Commission. In a paper submitted to the last EEC summit meeting in Dublin, the Commission recommended that by 1990 the EEC should aim not merely to provide a third of the world telematics market but to supply it as well.

Preoccupied with the dispute over Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, the nine heads of government were unable to give much attention to the futurist concerns of the Commission. None the less, they did agree on the need for a common strategy on the new technology. Viscount Etienne Davignon, the EEC Commissioner for Industrial Affairs, will be the man mainly responsible for drawing up the plan for that strategy. In an interview with **Michael Hornsby** and **Peter Norman** he explains why he considers telematics so important.

Both you and President Jenkins have spoken of the danger of the EEC's being squeezed between the newly-industrialized countries in the Third World on the one hand, and the high-technology economies of the United States and Japan on the other. Can you expand on this theme for us?

Our basic approach is very simple. Everybody is today agreed that the major challenge for European industry is whether it has the ability to prepare itself in the 1980s for the next century. This clearly means that we have to accept changes in industries which have traditionally been the basis of our economic development.

But the rate of adjustment—because of all the social and regional problems it creates—will depend crucially on the degree of confidence there is that the decline in traditional sectors will be matched by the growth of new activities. Without that confidence we will go on clinging to our old industries, which will become less and less competitive, and at the same time fall farther and farther behind the United States and Japan in the new growth sectors.

Looking back, one can see that in a number of industries there was a degree of complacency in Europe, because companies still had a positive cash flow and were still growing. But they were growing less than their competitors in the United States and Japan, and so their relative shares of the market were declining.

We think it important to assess whether this is happening again in the new growth areas and, if it is, to assess what is impeding the development of this or that industry in our countries, compared with the same industry in the United States or Japan. Then we must see where the restraints or impediments can be removed with the help of a Community approach.

This implies that you can identify the growth areas with a fair degree of reliability and then persuade industries to accept your assessment of the possibilities, doesn't it?

There is no doubt that telematics is one very fast-growing industry. It is no longer a question of asking whether this is a sector which is going to be *porteur*, as we say in French, because that is already established. The acceleration of technology, in microprocessors, advanced components and so on, has gone consistently much faster than was predicted.

People said the chip was 10 years away, and then—bang!—it was there in three or four years. So what we have to find out, in consultation with industry and member states, is why it is happening less quickly in the Community than in the United States.

What conclusions have you reached so far?

One key element we have identified is the training process, education in schools, the adaptation of the public to the science fiction era. Science fiction is no longer something you see on films and television serials. It is already here.

But for the first time it is a kind of technology which you cannot use effectively simply by buying an instruction leaflet with the product. It requires training in the management and use of new techniques. Small and medium-sized enterprises which do not master these new techniques will fall farther and farther behind their competitors.

The process must begin in schools. We would like to see the new technologies playing a bigger role in educational programmes, both in terms of teaching techniques and in terms of accustoming the new generation to use these technologies in later life—I am thinking of data banks and information dissemination and so on.

How do you answer the fears of trade unions that new technology means fewer jobs?

We have to open a dialogue with trade unions, government and business and convince them that the use of new technology, and increased productivity, does not necessarily mean a radical loss of jobs. We have to show them that by being able to do a number of things they did not do before they will create needs that did not exist before, a demand for services which—as prices come down—become available to small companies and even individuals and are no longer the preserve of enormous multinational companies.

Time and time again, when we looked at the experience of big companies which had introduced new technologies—banks, insurance companies and so on—we found that they had greatly underestimated not the element of job loss but the element of job creation, the new activities and services their customers would require because of the availability of this new technology. So there is a balance between job loss and job creation.

The skills and qualifications required in a service or sector that is declining are often different from those required for employment in one that is expanding. Here is where the element of training comes in. It is interesting and extraordinary to note that the leading companies in electronics—Siemens and Philips come to mind—have had to set up their own training programmes because of the lack of public programmes.

The markets of the EEC and the United States may be comparable in size, but they operate in very different ways. What lessons can the EEC draw from the American experience?

One important difference is the habit which American industry, and American individuals, have of paying for many kinds of services which we in Europe expect to be given us free by the state. So if the state does not provide these services they are not provided, whereas in the United States there are always companies able to provide them because there are buyers ready to pay for the information they need.

This helps to explain the tremendously fast development of data banks and information dissemination systems in the United States. Over there it is considered normal to buy this type of information, whereas in our countries, for example, we consider it normal to receive a telephone directory as part of the tax we pay for the telephone. It is a silly example, but it illustrates the difference in outlook.

So a market has been created in the United States for certain services which does not exist in Europe. If we do not want to follow American commercial practice, then we have to ask ourselves how the state, or EEC states working together, can provide these services.

Then, there is the fragmentation of the European market: different technical rules and barriers, national monopolies and so on. So we must try to get a unified approach, coordinate and rationalize national research programmes, introduce an element of Community preference in relation to outsiders and progressively open up national markets to all Community producers.

There are those who argue that access to the new technology, under licence for example, is enough and that it is not essential actually to produce the raw materials of this technology, the advanced components and chips. We presume you disagree with that view?

It is not easy to give a cut-and-dried answer. But I would say, first, that it is as true in this field as in any other that somebody who is both supplier of the raw material and supplier of the finished product is not going to sell you the raw material at the cost price that goes into his finished product.

Second, there is the problem of keeping abreast of the evolution of the new technology, of knowing what is going to be possible or not possible, so as to be in a position to plan your investments and to know what markets will be available. Without that knowledge we will miss being in at the first stage of new markets and have to conquer them afterwards by coming in at low prices. With the high manufacturing costs we have in Europe, it is not easy to do that and still make money.

What role do you see the Commission playing in your telematics strategy?

What we tried to do in Dublin was to get member states to focus on the overall requirement. Mainly, I think, it is a question of helping industrial, economic and governmental circles to anticipate what is going to happen, so that when formal decisions are eventually taken they are, in a sense, simply confirmation of what is already being done. We in the Commission must try to influence decisions, to point the way ahead, but without getting so far ahead that we are out of sight of our followers.

The troubles of the older industries—steel, shipbuilding, textiles—are well known. Do you see any danger of the car industry going the same way

I think the situation is different. Throughout the postwar period the European car industry has had to compete for domestic markets, and later for external markets, against strong competitors from abroad. In contrast to other industries, it has maintained an advance in motor technology and in design.

You do not hear it said, for example, that the Japanese are the only people capable of producing machine tools for the car industry, whereas the best tools for the steel industry do come from Japan. It is also interesting to note that the biggest crisis in the industry was not at Fiat or Peugeot but at Chrysler....

British Leyland?

I expected you to raise that, but it is a different problem. BL is not Fiat or Peugeot: it is a conglomerate of a number of companies which ran into self-inflicted industrial difficulties at home. This was not because BL lacked the necessary technology. At one time BL was doing beautifully with a number of models and could still be doing very well with some if it could make them and sell them. So I do not think I am being unfair to anyone in saying that BL is not typical of the car industry as a whole.

On the eve of the Geneva Motor Show (March 6-16) *Europa* examines the state of the industry. **Toni Schmücker**, chairman of Volkswagen, discusses future trends. On page II, Umberto Agnelli, Fiat vice-president, talks about European prospects; on page III the American position is analysed

The decade just past was scarcely trouble-free for the motor industry, but now, at the beginning of the 1980s, it is faced with new risks and uncertainties. These are the result of the political and economic anxieties caused by the events in Iran and Afghanistan, and compounded by the recent drastic increase in oil prices. It is, perhaps, not surprising that many short-term forecasts of the industry's future should be frankly pessimistic, yet a longer-term analysis shows that there are grounds for confidence rather than despondency.

In the first place, none of the new problems facing the motor industry is to do with the car as such. The crisis of 1973-74 was a paralyzing shock for the industry; many potential customers kept away, and the bans on Sunday driving and speed limits that were introduced had disastrous consequences. Today the approach is calmer: potential customers no longer ask themselves whether they should have a car or not: they ask themselves "which car?", and match their choice to the latest developments.

This year will probably see the advent of the depression in the motor industry which has been expected to follow the several years of boom. But the emphasis will not be on this purely temporary effect on the volume of sales, but the structural effect—in other words the trend towards the type of car with a lower fuel consumption. This had already started before the recent further deterioration of the international situation, and it will now be accelerated. Against this background the question of what model types will be on offer for the future is of particular importance.

The Volkswagen group bases its model strategy on the following considerations: feasible reductions in fuel consumption must be put into effect; the present hierarchy in the product range must be retained and fuel-saving measures must not be allowed to impair the generally recognized properties of the car (maximum fuel saving without detriment to performance, safety and comfort). Anything else is seen as a regressive step, technologically speaking.

As things are at present, the amount of fuel a car needs in use still depends very much on how it is driven. Our efforts are directed towards achieving lower consumption rates through design improvements, leaving the driving out of account. Better wind resistance, weight reduction and modified gear ratios are among the possible solutions.

But one thing needs to be said clearly: the motor industry cannot wave a magic wand and suddenly produce a car, all ready to oblige with completely new consumption standards. The really economic car can be achieved only step by step; the process will be an evolutionary one, not subject to rigid economic planning and dictated by the mechanism of prices. Customers will be able to rely on recovering additional outlay for energy-saving technology from the lower consumption that will have been achieved while they are waiting.

The energy crisis should indeed be a positive factor for increased world production of cars. This is because a high proportion of cars on the road today, of all categories, are more obsolete than their residual service life itself would indicate because of the new factor of more expensive oil. Many cars have come to look out of date in terms of economic priorities. The huge American road cruisers are a prime example of this.

With the process of structural change already mentioned, satisfaction of regular requirements for spares and the increasing automation of the international motor industry, there should be a firmer basis for further production growth over the longer term. This trend could, of course, be adversely affected at any time if there is a change in consumer habits, provoked by fears of further crisis, in countries with a high density of cars. These account for nearly three quarters of all the world's cars. To put it another way, if a substantial number of car owners take such a gloomy view of the future that they decide to wait a year longer than usual, for example, before buying a new car, the motor industry could not avoid having to cut back on production.

Structural change will, of course, have a particularly marked effect on car supply in the United States. Mastering the process will engage the technical and financial resources of the American motor industry for many years to come. It is not, therefore, likely that the most important American companies will have enough energies left over to take advantage of the present distortions in the exchange rate system in order to swamp Europe with medium-sized cars in the middle-price range.

Whether these distortions will still exist by the time American motor manufacturers are in a position to turn their attention again, and with renewed drive, from their own domestic market is an open question. Meanwhile, at least, there are no valid grounds for saying that the European motor industry is threatened just because General Motors, Ford and Chrysler are switching over to more economical medium-sized cars.

Certainly, the Americans will be expanding their interests in Europe, but only in pursuit of the same strategy that they have been adopting for many years—exporting capital but not finished products. The latest plans that General Motors is known to have for Spain and Austria in any case support this view. But, quite apart from this, General Motors and Ford have fully integrated powerful subsidiaries in West Europe with substantial penetration of the market.

There is no doubt that Japanese motor manufacturers have made spectacular progress from nothing. Commercial production of cars began in Japan only in 1955, but this year the country has moved to the top of the league table in world car production, so ousting the Americans from a position which has traditionally been theirs. But while the Japanese, with what has been achieved, can be said to have found their role to some extent in the world car market, any further growth should follow more normal channels.

Japan's export effort is centred on three main sectors: cars, electronics and mechanical engineering. This represents a dangerous state of dependency, and since Japan has almost no natural resources of its own and requires large amounts of foreign currency its exports will undoubtedly have to be diversified.

Another factor which places Japan's future opportunities in the world car market in perspective is the greatly undervalued yen, which has been the background to Japanese exporting for some time. The presumption must be that in the long run the yen will be revalued at a more realistic rate.

It is unlikely that any one of the three major motor manufacturing regions, the United States, Europe and Japan, will be able to gain any decisive advantage over the others in terms of automotive technology. Available capital will suffice to meet the nevertheless immense and mounting costs of research and development and rationalization of production. And it can be safely assumed that Europe, the United States and Japan are equally highly developed as regards the wealth of invention of their technologists and engineers, which is a matter of such paramount importance.

The question remains whether the situation created by drastic oil price rises will lead to structural changes in the European motor industry that will exacerbate its problems. The Volkswagen group does not believe so. The manufacturers that exist today should continue in being, although whether all of them as independents is another matter.

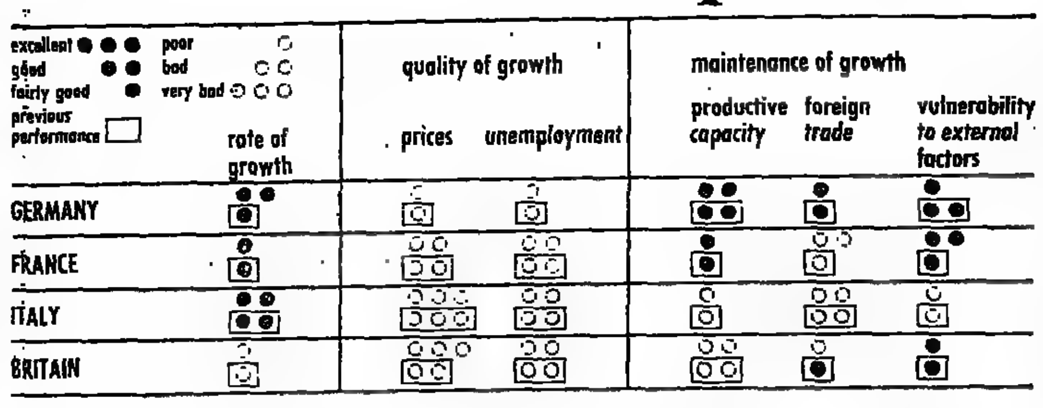
Even those manufacturers which are specialist producers and have carved out a market niche for themselves have a good chance of surviving as long as they remain firm in retaining their identity, and do not fall into a situation which brings them into fundamental opposition to the circumstances of a changing world.

The European motor industry has reached a form of organization, in its many years of existence, which precludes any further concentration in the sense of mergers. There could well be more emphasis on cooperative action, however, since this is one of the few, if not the only, promising means still remaining for increasing productivity.

By this is meant the production of components in joint venture operations, where a single manufacturer cannot produce economic quantities on its own. Moreover this system would ensure a more even spread of the burden of continually soaring development costs. This is an area which must be regarded as holding out considerable promise for the future of the European motor industry.

Facts and figures

Symptoms of economic disruption



The United States economy has not lost its ability to surprise. Until now the results announced for each successive month have meant that the forecast time of recession, which has been constantly expected *but has failed to materialize*, has been gradually pushed back. The most recent figures, however, *have left the experts* wondering whether or not they represent a reversal of the situation.

Some of the figures are still pointing to a recession—for instance January's 33 per cent fall in the motor industry's output *(although small cars are* selling well) and the rise in unemployment to 6.2 per cent. On the other hand retail sales rose in January by a record 2.3 per cent, a surprising development which has caused fears of a further inflationary stampede, especially considering that personal saving has fallen to the low level of 3.3 per cent *of disposable income*.

At the same time the sharp rise in wholesale prices (1.6 per cent) in January foreshadows further acceleration *in retail prices, the annual increase* in which had already reached 13.5 per cent in December, an extraordinary rate for the United States.

Has there been a change in the behaviour of the American people who, having taken note of the increase in defence spending, have suddenly realized that the rise in inflation is far from over? Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, thinks there has. Addressing the Senate recently, he said that oil *and the new international tension* were hampering his counter-inflation policy. But, sticking to his task, he has once again raised the discount rate from 12 per cent to 13 per cent, a record.

The four *Europa* countries *are displaying similar symptoms* of economic disruption. Their governments' greatest fear had been the deflationary effect of the oil price rises but, except in Britain, no recession has come—on the contrary—and business *leaders* remain optimistic. At the same time, as the graph shows, the average inflation rate has risen from *12.5 per cent to more than 15* per cent, and there is once again pressure on interest rates.

In West Germany a feature of *the most recent figures is a* recovery in the building industry, where a deterioration had been thought more probable, but there are also several signs that the economy is slipping out of control. The rate of increase in retail prices, calculated *on a three-monthly basis*, is accelerating, although more slowly than elsewhere, from 4.5 per cent to 5 per cent. Wholesale prices, however, are advancing much more rapidly: by 1.2 per cent in January and by 10.2 per cent over the past *12 months*.

As a report by the Economic Research Institute (DIW) in Berlin has pointed out, there is more to this than higher import prices alone; an inflationary mentality is also tending to develop, despite the comparative moderation of the 6.8 per cent wage increase finally accepted by the metal-working union, which had put in a demand for 10.5 per cent.

One new development is that the current account balance of payments deficit—DM9,000m in *1979 and likely to be twice as* great this year—is now officially accepted, as long as it does not become "structural". This offers the advantage of easing the constant pressure for a revaluation of the Deutsche mark.

The West German authorities, therefore, seem reconciled to this slight loss of control, to which the world economic situation has contributed. As was explained recently by Herr Otto Schlecht, *State Secretary* for Economic Affairs, the prevailing political uncertainty *should make for the accumulation* of larger stocks and increasing prosperity for industries associated with defence.

If the adoption of a flexible policy is a new development in West Germany, the same could *not be said of Japan*, whose Government was quick to slacken its hold on the reins in an effort to accommodate industry and growth (at 6.3 per cent the highest in the industrialized world), keeping interest rates low (the discount rate stood at 6.25 *per cent* for a long time). This explains the yen's fall, the big balance of *payments deficit, and the jump* in wholesale prices, which rose 2.1 per cent in January alone and 19.3 per cent over the past 12 months.

Japan's way out of its difficulties has been to give the economy its head, while in *addition running a large budget* deficit. But the situation must be rectified and, as is acknowledged by Mr Maruo Mayakewa, Governor of the Bank of Japan, this is going to be no easy matter at a time when increases in wholesale prices will *be working their way through* to retail prices. A hasty increase in the discount rate, *from 6.25 per cent to 7.25 per* cent, has already proved necessary.

Italy, like Japan, staked everything on expansion during *1979 and as a result recorded* the second highest growth rate of all the industrialized countries (5 per cent) but, even more than in other countries, the limits to which such a course can be pursued are drawing close, with inflation running away at 26 per cent (calculated on the past three *months*) and the trade gap suddenly widening.

It will not be easy for the Italian Government to engineer the necessary return to good order. Signor Pandolfi, Minister for the Treasury, is refloating the idea of economic planning, whereas the employer's organization *Cofindustria is calling* for a revision of the moving scale system of wage indexation. When the decision eventually comes, it will once again come from the Bank of Italy and will entail a further application of the monetary brakes.

France, according to M Raymond Barre at least, has achieved sustained and healthy activity through the recovery of investment and exports *which has been made possible* by French industry's renewed competitiveness. The Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques sees the situation rather differently, expecting some increase in inflation, with rising industrial prices, stockpiling, and a fall in personal saving (which means that the level of consumption *is maintained although purchasing* power is declining).

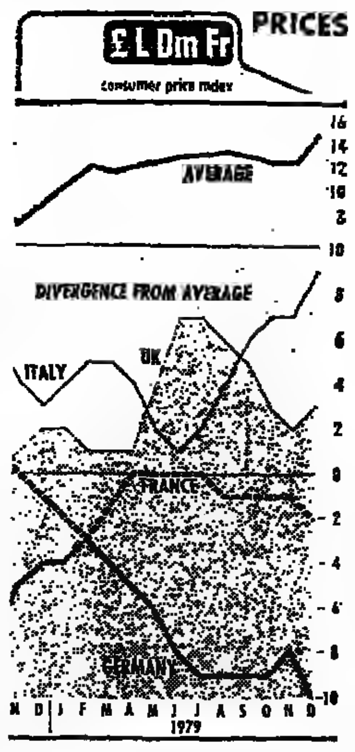
The latter interpretation appears the more plausible in the light of the January figures announced recently, which showed a sharp rise in prices (almost 2 per cent) and, above all, *a large trade deficit* (4,000m francs) exacerbated by imports of consumer goods. At all events, France will have less difficulty than Italy in finding *the right new blend of discipline* and flexibility, working to the empirical model applied *by the Prime Minister, whose* words are probably more carefully measured than his actions.

What a contrast with the austere policy of Mrs Thatcher, who makes no concessions in putting her principles into practice, particularly in the *areas of monetary policy and* wages. The minimum lending rate has been set at the high *level of 17 per cent* (causing surprise a few months ago) and no effort has been spared to reduce public spending and to *impose new discipline on the economy in the hope of quickly* reducing inflation and strengthening industry.

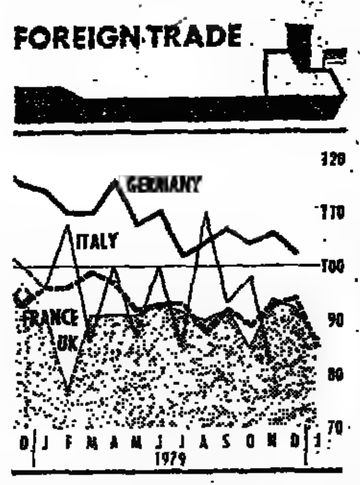
The results so far have un*fortunately been less than conclusive*. On the contrary, prices rose 2.5 per cent in January and inflation is running at a rate higher than the MLR, which could in turn rise still further.

Wages are going up by nearly 20 per cent and are proving difficult to curb, as witness the course of the steel industry *strike. To make matters worse*, in contrast with the situation in other countries, activity is stagnant to the extent that not only the TUC but even the Civ is critical. The example of Britain, compared with West Germany, Japan, Italy and France, demonstrates how difficult it is under present circumstances to arrest a general slide.

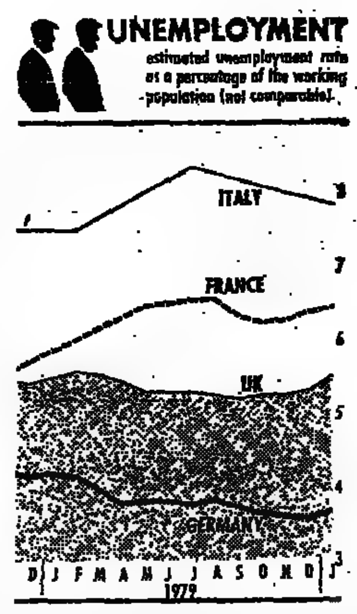
Maurice Bommensath



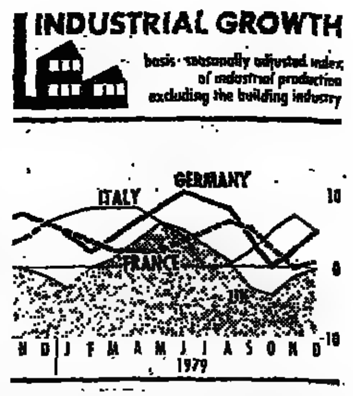
Prices: The average inflation rate for the four *Europa* countries has climbed steeply, from 12.5 per cent to over 15 per cent at a stroke. All the countries have recorded increases: West Germany a slight one from *4.5 per cent to 5 per* cent, France a larger one from 12 per cent to 14.5 per cent, *and Britain and Italy massive* increases from 14 per cent to 17 per cent and from 20 per cent to 26 per cent respectively. These rates are calculated on the past three months. The year-on-year rates are 5.1 per cent in West Germany (using the new index), 13.5 per cent in France, 18.4 per cent in Britain and 21.4 *per cent in Italy*.



Foreign trade: There has been a general decline in cover of imports by exports (calculated fob cif *and seasonally* adjusted): in West Germany from 106 per cent in November to 102 per cent in December, and in France and Britain respectively from 94 per cent and 92 per cent in December to 85 per cent and 86 per cent in January.



Unemployment: Between December and January seasonally adjusted unemployment calcu*lated as a percentage of the* working population, rose for the first time in West Germany from *3.55* per cent to 3.65 per cent; it continued its upward trend in France (from 6.35 per cent to 6.4 per cent) and more markedly in Britain (from 5.3 per cent to 5.5 per cent).



Growth rate: Between November and December industrial growth was maintained in West Germany (5 per cent) and Italy (5 per cent), and stabilized in France (1 per cent); despite some improvement, Britain was still running at nil growth.

Pickets and lorry driver confront each other at Sheerness Steelworks. Wages in Britain are going up by 20 per cent and are proving difficult to curb, as witness the course of the strike in the steel industry. Photograph: Brian Harris

Trompe l'oeil

In the second of this series of articles on misconceptions surrounding economic issues, Caroline Atkinson looks at taxation

Comparisons can be odious

A common complaint in Britain is that we pay too much tax. The Conservative Government came to power last spring with a pledge to reduce the burden of taxation. Unfavourable comparisons of the level of tax in Britain with that in other countries, *especially* those in the EEC, were put forward as part of the Tory argument for tax reductions.

But just what do these com*parisons mean? Should one* compare the income tax paid by a man on average earnings in one country with that of another? Or is the *relevant* measure the total amount which he pays to the Government—whether directly through *income tax* or *indirectly* through taxes on spending? *It* is no simple matter to choose the relevant indicator of the burden of taxation and to measure and compare it between countries.

One of the first difficulties is to pick the *right* definition of tax. In most industrialized nations, a considerable proportion of government spending goes on income maintenance *for those who are out of work* or sick. But in some countries the *money* spent on such social security benefits is raised as part of the general tax revenue, while in others it is raised largely through specific levies on employers and employees, as *social security contributions*.

In the United Kingdom national insurance or social security contributions are levied but they pay for only a *small proportion of the spending* on social security. Other European countries such as France or Germany raise much more revenue through social security contributions. Thus a table ranking industrialized *countries according to the proportion* of gnp which is taken in taxes, excluding social *security contributions*, puts the British sixth from the top. One which treats social security payments as another tax shows Britain ninth.

Australia, which has no social security contributions, moves down from fifth highest taxer to thirteenth. On the other hand, France and Germany move up from twelfth and tenth places respectively, to eighth and seventh when social *security contributions* are included. So the change of definition puts these two countries above Britain on *this* measure of the burden of taxation.

Social security contributions are paid by both employer and employee. Should both be counted as part of the tax burden, or only the levy on the employee? *In 1977 23 per cent* of British personal income ended up in the hands of the Government, if you include the employer's contribution, but 19 per cent if you do not. For France the contrast is more striking. Only 13 per cent of *total income went in taxes and* contributions if the employer's contributions are ignored, but this rises to 23 per cent if they are included.

When Mrs Thatcher talked about cutting taxes, she meant taxes on income. In the Conservatives' first Budget there were substantial cuts in direct taxation on incomes. *But these* were paid for largely by a big rise in value-added tax on spending. It is a nice point whether the burden of taxation in a country includes taxes on spending, or whether a shift from direct to indirect taxes, such as that experienced in Britain over the past year, can be said in some sense to reduce the weight of taxation in the economy.

Opinion polls taken *after the* British Budget in June suggested that Britons did not feel better to have the Government taking money from them as they spent it rather than when they earned it. However, the British Government defends the switch from direct to indirect taxes on the ground that the incentive to work and earn money *is greater if less of* the extra income is taken in tax.

This brings us to another definitional problem. Is what *matters the average rate of tax* —total tax paid as a proportion of income—or the marginal rate of tax paid on each additional pound or franc or *mark* earned? It is the latter which is linked with incentive and which affects someone's decision about *whether to work* a little harder to earn a little more, or whether not to bother *because so much of the extra* income will go into the Exchequer. But clearly the former *average rate of tax* is a better measure of a government tax take and of the overall tax burden than is the marginal rate.

The two *measures often* become confused. In Britain marginal tax rates, *especially* for those at the top and bottom of the income scale, have been high. The top rate of tax on income was 83 per cent before last June's Budget, far above that in other EEC countries. But average income tax rates in Britain are not particularly high.

Another important issue which greatly affects any income tax comparison is at what *income* level the tax rate is measured. Income tax is generally progressive, that is peo*ple pay a bigger proportion of* their income in tax as their income grows. In some countries, although the basic income tax rate is low, more people are liable to pay tax on more of their income. Over the years of rapid inflation in the 1970s *many people moved into the* tax bracket as inflation eroded the real value of tax allowances.

The picture is also distorted by the *existence of perks, such* as company cars, free holidays or cheap loans, which boost people's *income but are not included* in it and are not taxed fully, if indeed at all.

Country A might tax a person on average earnings more heavily than does country B, while at the same time taxing the poorer more lightly. In *which country is the tax burden* the heavier?

Finally there is the so-called black economy, where no tax is paid on unrecorded economic activity. Tax evasion in Italy is *much more widespread* than in Britain, but how should that be *included in the calculations*?

Dip in the European market is temporary

Call for common action on car problems

In the *1980s*, European motor manufacturers will be forced to find common responses to the problems of the car, and the press of events will only make this need increasingly imperative. Handling of the developments that will inevitably follow cannot be left to mere expediency. A direct commitment will be required, the deter*mined resolve of* both motor manufacturers and national and Community authorities.

*These considerations arise in*evitably from an analysis of market trends and of the positions of the three world manufacturing groups—American, Japanese and European.

Europe in 1980 will see a slight fall in car demand (−3 per cent) although this will be made up in 1981. The next three to four years will record a slow but steady advance of the order of 1.5 and 2 per cent a year.

The European car industry will, on the whole, easily get over the temporary dip in the domestic *market* but not without aggravating the tensions that already exist among Euro*pean manufacturers*.

The structure of the car pro*duction systems is by no means* stable and manufacturers operate under conditions that are often quite different from one country to another. In the next few years, therefore, they will have to solve their common problems and establish mutual roles within an overall model of development.

It has been pointed out on *more than one occasion that the* main cause of the instability in the European car industry lies *in the high number of manu*facturers operating in our markets compared with those of the *United States and Japan*

To give just one example, General Motors and Ford in the United States and Toyota-Nissan in Japan control about three quarters of their home markets, whereas the two largest European groups, Peugeot and Volkswagen, do not even cover 30 per cent. General Motors on its own produces 7,200,000 units, or 22.6 per cent of world production, while as many as 10 European *manufacturers* are needed to make 27.2 per cent of world production (8,800,000 units).

Taking into consideration the *size of non-European manufac*turers, it is clear that the pre*sent structure of large and small* European manufacturers will have to change, and change substantially, to be able to combat the economic and productive potential of United States and Japanese competitors.

The vitality of the Japanese *car industry will undoubtedly* remain unchanged in the near future and will continue to be *felt in Europe for* many years.

The main United States manufacturers too are also looking to Europe because of the likelihood of a recession at home and their intention of building a *world* car. The enormous European investment programme recently announced by General Motors is clear proof of this.

So we shall probably see a rise in imports to *Europe*. When these are added to established local production, problems of total competitiveness will be raised which the European car industry has yet to solve.

Thus there is the need to seek economies of scale competitive *with the main* non-European manufacturers in high volume production of parts, components and finished products. It is this endeavour that will form the *basis for future industrial and*, perhaps, commercial collaboration agreements.

This then is an inevitable development, but this kind of development implies a commitment not only from the manufacturers, but from national and Community authorities too. Alongside increasing cooperation in the *production of components, a major effort* will have to be made to rationalize the production system as a *whole, and to achieve this* we will need a rational choice of sites for new ventures and facilities for the necessary mobility of capital and technology.

The validity of national programmes designed to foster the activities of car manufacturers within the Community must be looked at again precisely because the new ventures called for by such a change are often beyond the capability of any one company.

To conclude, we must bear in mind *that* a single European market (as regards both supply and demand) remains a desirable objective. Today, unfortunately, we are still not operat*ing under realistic conditions*.

Umberto Agnelli

'Road cruisers' were big sellers

Anatomy of a crisis

Ford's answer to General Motors' "road cruiser". The late 1950s saw an increase in demand for these huge and thirsty cars when petrol cost only a few cents a gallon. This, coupled with the heavy restrictions on oil exporting in the 1970s, has been the main cause of the fuel shortage and petrol queues. Photograph: Colin Curwood.

It is all the fault of the world's biggest motor manufacturers, the General Motors Corporation. Following the lead given by Mr Alfred P. Sloan, Detroit's ablest car builder, the company set out in the 1950s to seek an even greater market share with the launching of its new "road cruisers". These giant metal boxes, as they appeared to European eyes, fitted with high-compression V8 engines, surpassed in handling qualities and comfort all other cars to be found on the road in the United States.

Unappealing in appearance though they are to modern tastes, these powerful cars quickly became big sellers, although you could almost hear the petrol as it gurgled in the carburettor. At that time, however, it cost only a few cents a gallon in the United States.

GM had a good nose for the right time to act, for the first wave of increased prosperity was beginning to spill out across the country. Under the Eisenhower administration, a closely knit freeway network was completed, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, and many Americans felt a great desire to take their own continent by storm. There was no more comfortable way of covering the vast distances involved.

The way was thus opened for a development which now faces America with an enormous problem: by 1977, according to statistics issued by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, average annual petrol consumption per head in America was 1,941 litres, in Germany 462, in France 428, in Britain 408 and in Italy 425 litres. For the example set by the market leader, GM, was immediately followed by the Ford Motor Company, the Chrysler Corporation and, a little later, by the small American Motors Corporation founded in 1954. Detroit had taken due note of Mr Sloan's discovery that large cars also spelt large earnings.

The Sloan marketing strategy was based on the concept that, with mass production, larger cars cost only a few hundred dollars more to produce than smaller ones, yet this difference could be multiplied many times as an element of the selling price. For example, a few years ago there was perhaps a difference of $400 in the cost price of the Chevrolet Caprice and the Cadillac Deville, yet the more exclusive customers for the Cadillac paid $3,800 more than Chevrolet customers. Under the Sloan era the car was turned into a status symbol. Hence the pressure for the high requirement levels in the United States which have shown no signs of coming down.

The new philosophy, coupled with strong growth in real incomes and a trend towards the two and even three car family, completely altered the face of Detroit. Apart from the occasional strike and cyclical fluctuations in the economy there was an uninterrupted steep upward trend. Between 1961 and 1965 alone, the number of new registrations in the United States rose from six million to 9,500,000 annually. When the first warning signs—increased car imports—eventually began to appear they were either deliberately ignored or met with only a half-hearted response. The inflation of the economy had its effect here, the result of President Johnson's welfare programme and of the Vietnam War.

Despite the Vegas and Pintos and other small cars, mostly of immature design, which GM, Ford and AMC had finally, after a struggle, come round to producing, the oil crisis of 1973-74 hit the motor town like a hammer-blow. After three boom years American car output dropped in 1974 by 24 per cent, and America began to fall into the worst recession since the 1930s. The gas guzzlers began to pile up in the giant storage sheds, as suddenly nobody wanted them any more; and they accounted for more than nine tenths of the extensive model range of General Motors and Ford.

Only two years later the crisis had fizzled out, as the oil began to flow once more and Americans started to climb back into their giant chariots. In 1976 Detroit's home sales already amounted to 8,600,000 cars, and net profits increased by 233 per cent over the previous year's. The share of imported cars in the American market also fell, from 18 per cent to 14.8 per cent. Mr Lee Iacocca, who was fired by Mr Henry Ford in 1978 and is now the head of Chrysler, ventured the prediction (eventually proved false) that "the Europeans and the Japanese will never be able to get beyond this".

American motor manufacturers have always declared that they ought not to go in for production ahead of the market. There is some truth in this, although farsightedness is also a quality for top management. Besides, the success achieved by small car imports, especially in the past 10 years, can only be explained by the fact that Detroit had nothing comparable to offer as a counter to the "cute", fuel-saving foreign makes. The legislators in Washington, tired of hearing of nothing but the profit motive, had to take control of demand into their own hands. Dearer oil imports, the weakness of the dollar and the need to create new jobs provided sufficient incentives for action.

Under pressure from different departments, Congress has imposed on this huge branch of industry, which if distributor services are included accounts for about 8 per cent of the United States gross national product, stringent conditions regarding emission, safety and consumption. It is possible that there might be some further tightening of the screws. It would appear, however, that the motor companies are aiming at achieving an average consumption per vehicle by 1985 (taking all types of car together) of 8.6 litres per 100 kilometres. In American conditions this is a very big undertaking, calling for an investment programme on a gigantic scale.

Under pressure from Washington, Detroit has been going in for slimming: road cruisers are becoming shorter and lighter. GM is spending an annual average of $3,200m on a timely restyling of all its leading models, resulting in a 38 per cent saving on fuel consumption. The financially weak Chrysler Corporation appears to have delayed too long, and the demand for its small Omni and Horizon cars, with front-wheel drive, cannot be met because of shortage of engines, although Volkswagen has now resumed supplies of these (300,000 engines a year). No more old-style dinosaurs are being offered today on the American market.

The dilemma facing the American motor industry is that it is still building too many large cars, and small car production is far behind requirements. Although there are now more economical models on the market, the comparatively few assembly lines given over to their manufacture cannot cope with demand.

Foreign suppliers are the ones who benefit from this situation, especially makers of small cars. Last year they exported more than 2,300,000 units to the United States, compared with about two million in 1978. Their share of the American market accelerated to 22 per cent. Over 1,760,000 of car imports to the United States came from Japan: the bulk of the remainder—about 560,000 cars — from Europe.

European car sales to the United States in 1979 were made up of about 350,000 cars from Germany, 70,000 from Italy, 42,500 from Britain and 31,000 from France. In 1970 the European share of the American market was 11.7 per cent and the Japanese 3.5 per cent, whereas last year the positions were reversed, with 5.1 and 16.6 per cent respectively.

The latest crisis was brought about mainly by the Iranians, when they began to restrict their oil exports in February 1979. Beginning in oil-thirsty California, a panic was set off throughout the United States: the long queues at the filling stations, which went on for months, put a further sizable damper on the requirement for road cruisers. At the end of January, Detroit's stockpile of cars, nearly all of them large models, had despite the offer of costly price discounts reached 1,900,000.

Because of the heavy slump in sales, in 1979 GM's earnings were reduced by 18 per cent, or nearly $2,900m. Ford registered a loss on its North American business of nearly $1,000m, which was offset only through the transfer of earnings from its foreign operations, largely in Europe. Chrysler, over $1,000m in the red, was on the point of collapse, and the worst was avoided only through the effects of Washington's support programme.

A dozen and a half American car factories have closed down, and nearly 200,000 workers in the car industry, including the supplier business, are now laid off. This is nearly a quarter of all employees in the industry (roughly 865,000). The United Automobile Workers trade union is afraid that the worst has not yet been reached. In the 1975 recession the big three, GM, Ford and Chrysler, laid off 250,000 workers. One prediction, which is to be taken seriously, is that American car sales in 1980 will fall back by 14 per cent to about 9,500,000.

With imports perhaps [illegible] increase, Detroit is, therefore, having to reckon with a loss [illegible] sales of 1,500,000 cars. Yet the American car industry, [illegible] things considered, is stronger than it looks.

Horst-Alexander Siebert

Motoring into Third World markets

A quarter of Ford's investment goes abroad

Wishful thinkers in Europe like to give the impression that the American motor industry, after years of mistaken model design policy, is bound to come off worst in the ever-intensifying competition for markets. Catch-phrases like "in reverse at full speed" and "a fateful decade for Detroit" are the order of the day.

Management in America's motor town is often described as "ossified, full of idle talk, and bureaucratic". Many are convinced that Ford, the second-largest motor manufacturer and the fourth biggest processing concern in the world, is threatened by the same fate as Chrysler.

The facts appear to be different. Thirteen large motor manufacturers in Europe turn out 12 million cars a year, which they cannot dispose of on the home market. The Old World also has to cope with stiffer competition from imports, particularly from Japan. In the United States, in contrast with the large number of car firms in Europe, only five manufacturers, including Volkswagen of America, between them accounted for nearly 8,400,000 in 1979, compared with 9,100,000 in 1978.

General Motors and Ford contributed about 5,100,000 and two million respectively to this total, Chrysler 907,000, American Motors 159,000 and VW Westmoreland 173,000. The American market still has a good deal of growth potential—to take imports alone (2,300,000 cars in 1979), all these could in theory be replaced by home manufacturers. For this reason Detroit is in a more favourable position.

All the same, the weakness of the American industry cannot be over-emphasized. The American market for cars is not merely being over-sensitive in its reactions to cyclical fluctuations in the economy, which can cause annual demand to fall by as many as two million cars.

High rates of interest on deferred payment transactions for cars are also an effective brake on sales. There is no doubt, though, that Detroit is carrying out a painful structural change. Once this is completed, United States competition could again be one jump ahead.

In the automotive industry in particular reorganization costs a great deal of time and money. The pace of investments in the United States has recently speeded considerably. From 1978 to 1985 Detroit will be pumping about $80,000m into small car production and new plant—an amount which can only remain a dream for the European industry.

It is greater than the whole gross national product of Sweden, and equivalent to the net earnings of the whole of American industry for 1975. It will cost $2,000m merely to improve engine performance by one mile an hour.

General Motors is investing $35,000m, of which nearly a quarter will go abroad. The corporation will be spending $2,000m on the erection of a major spare parts and assembly works in Spain and an engine factory in Austria. Top management, it has been learnt in confidence, will shortly be announcing further projects for both these countries.

In the first half decade of the 1980s GM will be releasing more funds for investment than in the whole of the previous decade. By 1985 the company is aiming for a product mix comprising 90 per cent small cars (1979: 13 per cent).

The smaller Ford Motor Company, whose foreign operations, however, are far larger than GM's (its foreign subsidiaries alone together form the seventh largest concern in the world) is investing the handsome amount of $20,000m. This is more than three times as much as total investments over the past eight years. The investment plans for 1980 are typical of the investment project as a whole: out of the $4,000m earmarked, $1,000m will be invested abroad.

For this year alone Ford has two dozen expansion projects for Europe, from Saarlautern in Germany to Dagenham. A closer look at the project plans, however, shows that the emphasis is shifting to Latin America, Asia and Africa. It is the same with General Motors. To Detroit's way of thinking it is in these Third World markets that the future lies, since it is there that the highest growth rates will be found.

It is there too that the real battle for markets will be fought, for the American companies certainly have no intention of cutting the ground from under the feet of their subsidiaries in Europe. They are content to go on filling market gaps. In 1979 GM and Ford exported respectively only 20,000 and 13,000 cars to Europe, most of which were bought by American troops stationed in Germany.

There is no doubt that Detroit is already much further advanced in its plans than many Europeans think. Every one of the American motor companies has developed so-called X models which in many respects represent a revolution in technology. They have front-wheel drive, are smaller and lighter, and economical on fuel.

It is not possible yet to identify quality differences. What is missing is the productive capacity. General Motors alone has four types which differ only in external appearance: the Chevrolet Citation, Pontiac Phoenix, Oldsmobile Omega and Buick Skylark. Ford is tinkering with the Erica project.

The world car is already with us—one which can be manufactured and sold anywhere. GM's is the Chevette and Ford's the Fiesta. Ford's German subsidiaries were mainly concerned with its development. Components for the Fiesta come from England, Belgium, [illegible] Ireland, Germany and [illegible] the cars are assembled [illegible] cia, Saarlautern and [illegible]. Increased [illegible] all the [illegible] turers [illegible] believed [illegible] make all [illegible].

Detroit [illegible] have sum[illegible] development [illegible] extend [illegible] drawing board [illegible] of lighter [illegible] aluminium [illegible] plastic and [illegible] intention of reducing [illegible] weight by a further 40 per cent.

The car of the future [illegible] during conditions [illegible] other command[illegible] microprocessors [illegible] great emphasis on [illegible]. But despite all the experiments with turbines [illegible] batteries, petrol and [illegible] though they [illegible] higher in [illegible] tinue to hold [illegible] time.

H.-A.S.

In this interview Philip Caldwell, Ford president, outlines US industry's dilemma

Demand switches to smaller models

Chrysler is in deep trouble, more than a dozen car plants are closed, and many car workers are laid off. Compared with the success of imported small cars is it fair to say that Detroit did not live up to the demands of the market?

The demands of the market have changed substantially in a short period. Fuel availability problems and the rapid rise in petrol prices have shifted demand from larger cars traditionally preferred by most Americans to smaller, more fuel-efficient vehicles. The American manufacturers have responded to this challenge by introducing a number of new more fuel-efficient products, and many more are planned. In 1979, the United States manufacturers accounted for about 55 per cent of all small cars sold in the United States, and we expect this share to grow.

It is true that the imports have increased their penetration of the United States market, but that was to be expected. Any time you have external events moving as rapidly as they have in the past year or two, you are bound to have dramatic swings in the marketplace. In this instance, it favoured the overseas manufacturers who, for years, have been designing and building products for sale in markets where petrol sold for $1.50 to $2 a gallon. In the case of the Japanese, moreover, this situation has been compounded by lower labour costs.

The oil crisis of 1973-74 was not taken seriously by the producers and consumers. Is there truth in the saying that Detroit did not push the small car because of low profitability?

There is no doubt that small cars are less profitable than larger cars, but there is no profit at all in units you cannot sell. During the 1973-74 oil embargo, demand for small cars rose substantially in the United States and American manufacturers made substantial shifts in production plans to serve that demand. But when petrol again became freely available, small-car demand declined and large-car demand rose. The American industry was caught in a dilemma with the market pushing towards larger cars and government fuel-economy regulations pushing towards small cars.

In the spring of 1979, when queues began to form again at petrol pumps, the market again turned towards small cars and market and regulatory pressures now are moving in the same direction. I believe that the American public now is convinced that there is an energy problem, and that small-car demand will continue. The American industry has begun offering a wide array of small, fuel-efficient cars and will offer even more in the next few years. By the middle of this decade, the American car fleet will be essentially the same size and mix as the European fleet. The American car industry is already in the process of changing and the necessary investments until 1985 are calculated at $80,000m. That is a lot of money. Where does it come from and where does it go?

The money will come from profits, depreciation and amortization, and, in some cases, from borrowing. It will go to develop and launch new products, build new facilities and retool existing facilities. Ford's investment will total about $20,000m.

Can you give us some details on research and development?

We have had some very promising success in developing a new programmed combustion engine that in many ways resembles a petrol diesel engine. It promises about a 20 per cent improvement in fuel economy, clean emissions, good acceleration and easy starting in cold weather. We hope that in the next few years it will prove feasible for manufacture.

We also are working on turbine and electric propulsion systems, but there are severe problems to be overcome before they can be produced. In addition, we are working on developing lighter weight materials for automotive uses and on some advanced electronic control systems.

What are the basic changes in your model policy and how far will it go?

We are working to develop a wide range of smaller, lighter more fuel-efficient vehicles that will serve the needs of our customers and be acceptable to them. Over the next few years, we will redesign and reengineer almost every vehicle we produce. The change will be more far-reaching than anything our industry has ever before undertaken.

Are you planning to step up the export of American-made cars to Europe? If so, what kind of cars will be sent over the Atlantic, and is there not the danger to compete with your own European subsidiaries?

We do not expect that there will be an export of large numbers of American cars to Europe. As is the case with the 1981 Escort, many of our American cars will be similar to our European models. Exports of North American Ford products to Europe will be primarily models that fill market niches not covered by our European lineup. The Mustang is an example of this strategy. In short, we will continue to design and build cars in Europe for Europeans.

Will there be some day a real global car?

Because the cost of introducing an entirely new line now averages $1,000m to $2,000m, world cars are becoming a necessity. It is a simple matter of economics. Single markets—even as massive as the United States or the EEC—will not be able to provide sufficient sales volume to support such huge costs.

The feasibility of world cars, however, will depend on the cooperation of various national governments in rationalizing national standards and removing other restrictions to the free flow of capital, technology and components necessary for the creation of the new generation of cars. Those nations that participate will enjoy the jobs, foreign exchange and access to modern products that this internationalization process can provide.

How will Detroit look in 1990?

The role of cars and lorries in personal transportation will not change greatly by 1990. But the trend to smaller, more fuel-efficient vehicles will continue. Growth in car sales will be slow but steady—about 2 per cent a year in the United States, 2.8 per cent in Europe, 5.7 per cent in the Asia-Pacific area and 6.8 per cent in Latin America. There will be increased reliance on technology to improve fuel economy. The era will bring new transmissions, increased use of diesels, front-wheel drive, electronic engine components and light-weight materials.

H.-A.S.

Aim has been to make beef farming as attractive as dairy farming

Prices maintained by complex regulations

Most farmers in the EEC have found for a long time that it is more profitable to produce beef for government storage depots than for private consumption. This means that the taxpayer and the consumer have to pay higher prices.

This problem was inherent in the planning of a common agricultural policy. Fattening cattle in EEC countries is far more *expensive* than it is in countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, New Zealand and Australia, where there is ample space for grazing. Unlike milk production, beef production is not labour-intensive but space-intensive. In Europe land is dear, and animals have to be kept in byres *during winter* and supplied with expensive fodder.

It is a basic principle of EEC policy that beef farmers' earnings must be *comparable with* those of farmers in other kinds of agriculture. "But this is a requirement which, in the market conditions in our particular area, simply cannot be met", Herr Andreas Saft, an expert on the German wholesale and export trade in meat and livestock, said. Consequently, in order to make up for the disadvantages, high prices for beef have to be maintained *through a complex system of regulations imposed from above.*

It is different with pig farming, in which EEC countries are internationally *competitive*. In temperate zones pigs can be kept in pens, so that there is no dependence on *space and the feedstocks* they need can be transported over even quite long distances without too much expense. For this reason there is little government intervention in this market, although the "pig cycle"—the rise and fall of prices—is a classic problem of farming policy.

Until 1973 beef prices in EEC prices were regulated more or less in terms of supply and demand. The main peg on which the market organization rested was the "target price". This is fixed every year by the *Council of Ministers*, but initially reflected the conditions of the market, and breeders were guided by it in deciding how much to produce. All this changed when milk surpluses became more and more of a problem.

Those responsible for the Common Agricultural Policy argued that beef farming must be made attractive enough in relation to dairy farming for farmers to decide to switch. Not only were grants made available for slaughter and conversion to beef farming, but beef prices were raised in 1973, 1974 and 1975 by more than 10 per cent. But the flood of surplus milk went on growing, and there were larger stockpiles of unsalable meat. A change cannot be made overnight simply by hanging different labels around animals' necks.

The numbers of beef cattle in EEC countries went up at a stroke. Farmers no longer ran any risk. In 1973 a policy of permanent intervention was introduced, whereby governments undertook to buy beef at a fixed intervention price no matter how great the supply. The intervention price, which to start with was 7 per cent and then, since 1977, 10 per cent below the target price, was intended only as a support for socially motivated prices and incomes policies. It was meant to prevent the market price from falling below that level.

Farmers began to be guided by this guarenteed price, so that production rose. Self-sufficiency in beef in EEC countries went up from 82 per cent in 1972 to nearly 100 per cent. As a result, ever since 1974 the market price has fallen below the intervention price for an average period of only three weeks in the EEC as a whole, and not at all in Germany. Farmers find it more profitable, in fact, to sell their *meat to government cold-storage* depots than on the free market.

The cost to the taxpayer is *considerable. To keep a tonne* of beef in storage costs more than £1 a day. Even on the scale of 200,000 tonnes—and at the beginning of 1980 the stockpile amounted to 258,113 tonnes—this represents an annual outlay on storage costs of almost £75m.

A kilogram of frozen beef is worth almost £1 less than a kilogram of fresh meat, which adds up to another £250m or so a year, with an average storage time of eight months. All in all the EEC has spent more than £1,500m in beef intervention payments *since 1973. This is* equal to the whole of German development aid for almost two years.

Until 1973 Argentina was Germany's biggest foreign supplier, but now plays very little part. The import ban imposed by the EEC to protect the Common Agricultural Policy has technically been lifted, but in practice, apart from a few quotas agreed at inter-government level, importing is next to impossible. In October, 1979, for instance, the price of beef in Germany, with a world market price of the equivalent of DM7, rose to DM14.98 a kilogram, or nearly £4, through the effect of import tax, price adjustment levy, exchange rates and VAT. Anybody willing to pay this price still had to meet *other strict requirements.*

The upshot has been—much to the indignation of the developing countries, which were urged by the EEC at the end of the 1960s to accelerate their beef production—that the intervention subsidy on the price paid for exports was lowered from DM9.15 to DM2.99.

This situation is unlikely to change. Meat consumption per head in the EEC is going up, but because of the high price of beef the chief beneficiaries are the pig breeders. The EEC Commission, in spite of the numerous proposals which have been put forward as a possible solution of the problem, is accordingly reckoning on a further increase in the stockpile of beef.

Hans-Jürgen Mahnke

Experimental beef unit at the Rowett Research Institute outside Aberdeen.

Building a European concept

Back to common political roots

Traditions rooted in the Gréco-Latin heritage of our Western culture have instilled in European political thinking a corpus of concepts, references and theories which is common ground for the various European nations — a common fund making for an *exchange of ideas, the* necessary foundation for all scientific research. There is still a need for a European structure transcending national frontiers, however, and an original structure, the European Consortium for Political Research, was set up in 1970 and has already achieved considerable standing and prestige in the scientific world.

The consortium was formed *after discussions between* four men: the late Stein Rokkan of Bergen, who was a true missionary in the cause of European cooperation; Jean Blondel, who set up the department of political science at Essex, determined from the outset that it should be clearly international in its outlook; and Jean Touchard and Serge Hurtig of the Fondation Nationale des Sciences *Politiques in Paris. This group* was soon joined by three more pioneers of European political science: Sir Norman Chester, for many years Warden of Nuffield College, Oxford; Rudolf Wildenmann who has added a new dimension—modern and international—to his department in Mannheim; Hans Daalder who, at Leiden and more recently at the European University Institute in Florence, has promoted inter-European research with unfailing energy.

However, these men's *cooperation would* not have been enough without the original financial support of the Ford Foundation and the active and dependable assistance of one of its representatives, Peter de Janosi. The consortium quickly developed beyond all expectations, despite the fairly heavy subscriptions payable by member institutions. Its membership has increased more than tenfold from nine founder members.

The consortium now has 96 member universities or research centres from 15 European countries. The list of countries, with the number of institutions in the consortium, is: Britain (25), France (11), West Germany (11), *The Netherlands* (nine), Italy (eight), Sweden (five), Belgium (five), Switzerland (four), Denmark (four), Norway (four), Finland (three), Spain (three), Ireland (two), Austria (one) and Iceland (one).

Every three years delegates from the member institutions attend a council meeting and elect the 12-member executive committee, which in turn elects its own chairman (now Professor Wildenmann of Mannheim) and appoints the executive director, who is responsible for running the affairs of the consortium with support from a small, efficient administrative structure. The bulk of the consortium's finance comes from members' subscriptions, but additional funds are provided by foundations

The consortium's best-known activity is its annual congress, formally known as the joint sessions of workshops, at which *it organizes some 20 workshops.* It is attended each year by about 300 political scientists from the institutions in membership of the consortium and a small number of guests invited to bring their expert knowledge to bear on the various topics under discussion. The workshops cover a wide range of subjects: political theory, methods, political behaviour, electoral sociology, pressure groups, parties, elites, decision-making, local and regional policy, justice, the mass media and international affairs. Only those presenting a scientific paper are allowed to attend the congress.

The consortium is also active in comparative research and training. A number of research projects are set up each year and preparation and development meetings are held to organize them. Summer universities and doctoral seminars are held to develop the training of young researchers; the summer school at Essex is famous for its courses in basic and further training in quantitative methods and attracts political scientists from all over the world, some of whom are sponsored by *Unesco.* A similar summer school was recently organized at Grenoble under the auspices of the CNRS, the French national scientific research centre, to provide training for French political scientists who do not have an adequate command of English.

The consortium maintains a substantial output of publications. It publishes the *European Journal of Political Research*, volumes on various subjects discussed at the annual workshops (in association with the Sage publishing house), methodological monographs, *specialized* information brochures and an information bulletin.

The greatest asset of the consortium is the cultural diversity of its members, but *it is* an asset which is not unaffected by difficulties. Intellectual cross-fertilization is possible only if language training is more fully developed than at present and if the barriers represented by differences in careers and *professional* status are gradually broken down.

Nevertheless, mutual understanding has already reached an extraordinary level and a genuine European political science community is being built up—both among young researchers and among their better-established colleagues.

Jeanne Becquart-Leclercq and Jean Blondel

A dabbler in deep water

Industrial centre needs clear role

"A lamentable record." "A failure all along the line." Such are the harsh judgments being made of the Centre for Industrial *Development, the joint* body founded early in 1977 by the EEC and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries which are party to the Lomé Convention.

It was set up to take practical action to promote industrial cooperation, which was to be the centrepiece of the new relations between the Nine and the ACP countries, but three years later it is still on the starting line. This lack of progress has prompted the Community authorities and the ACP countries to dismiss the men in charge of the centre and they have given notice to Mr Theisen (Luxembourg) the director, and Mr Akinrele (Nigeria), the assistant director.

In the words of a senior official at the European Commission: "He was over-confident in his approach, failing to take the normal precautions". This is the main criticism made of Mr Theisen. Lacking in African experience, he set about his task without apparently displaying very much clear-sightedness. Thus he enthusiastically went in for discarded ideas which had long been recognized as such by old hands at African development; for instance a project to build a small steel plant using scrap metal as its raw material, which European experts had found to be not feasible 15 years ago.

The centre's management reacts to this criticism by pointing out that, despite the serious obstacles to the industrialization of the developing countries, in the past three years it has considered 379 projects for technical assistance and that 21 of these are already in progress, including six to which European businesses have contributed substantial share capital. The Community authori*ties and the ACP countries chal*lenge this flattering record, claiming that it was the centre's policy to take credit for the success of various exercises in which it had played only a marginal role.

Whatever the merits of this argument, the commission has stated officially that "the achievements of the Lomé Convention are fairly modest in industrial cooperation".

What is the reason for this failure? The feature of the centre which should have been its strength, as a joint body able to work between the two partners, in the event has proved to be the great weakness of the operational support for industrial cooperation between the *Nine and the ACP countries.* Both partners were distrustful of the centre from the *outset,* because it was not under their direct control. Its task accordingly has not been made easier *by either side. Some people even* go so far as to claim that "banana skins in plenty" have been put in its path.

From the *viewpoint* of the European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB), the centre is seen as an interloper. Having no appropriations with which to finance projects and only a small staff of 10, the centre has found it difficult to establish itself among the Community institutions traditionally operating in Africa. It is particularly revealing that it has had almost no contact with the EEC delegations in the ACP countries, which are excellent monitoring stations for keeping abreast of those countries' needs.

Moreover, in the absence of a clear definition of its role, the centre has been active in all *manner of areas; this has surely* been its management's second great mistake and has earned it a reputation in Brussels for dabbling.

In order to put the centre on course, the EEC and the ACP countries have decided, in addition to the change of management, to double its annual budget to ECU 5m compared with ECU 2.5m in each of the first three years of its existence *(1 ECU = 62p).*

Will this be enough to launch the centre properly at last? Many people in Brussels very *much doubt it. In order to* achieve progress, they explain, it would be necessary to begin by establishing a clear definition of its role, under which it would restrict itself to the organization of operations between European and African small and medium-sized busi*nesses. This is an area which* falls outside the scope of the European Development Fund (EDF) and the EIB which, on the industrial side of their activities, concentrate exclusively on large projects.

They add that the centre, which at present has to seek *EDF aid for the cash to fund* the smallest of schemes, must be given a proper budget with which to finance operations on its own account. Finally, as its present management is only too aware, the centre needs to gain the confidence of the other parties involved in industrial *development aid*—the European Commission, the EIB, the ACP governments, the EEC delegations in the field, the institutions in the Nine responsible for liaison with industry in their respective countries, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and so on.

Marcel Scotto

On the contrary

Le Major Thompson à Bruxelles

Si, à l'instar de ce chirurgien qui ouvrit un jour un Anglais, un de ses confrères belges ouvrait un Eurocrate, je me demande ce qu'il y trouverait.

Des soucis, of course, ainsi que des projets —beaucoup de projets. Des ambitions supranationales. De la tentation dirigiste, sinon totalitaire. Des avantages sociaux hors taxe. Mais surtout de la confusion linguistique. Les Eurocrates ne parlent pas le franglais, mais le déspéranto.

C'est une Anglaise, journaliste de son état, épouse d'un fonctionnaire du Marché commun, qui a invente l'expression "Eurocrate". On ne connaît pas la réaction de son mari. Je me demande même s'il était dans le tableau[1], car il va sans dire que tout Eurocrate moyen est un cadre . . . peut-être même un cadre supérieur.

By Jove! il est doué, l'Eurocate! Il n'est pas seulement constructive[2], mais constructeur: à ses moments perdus, il se retrouve enfermé dans sa fermette, ou il fait le pont pour rallonger son weekend.

Au bureau, par contre, ces hauts fonctionnaires ont souvent la vue basse, à force de regarder de si près le dessous des cartes européennes. C'est pourquoi ils se méfient de ceux qu'ils appellent les "gouvernements nationaux"—afin de les distinguer d'un éventuel gouvernement européen.

Well! C'est toutefois avec ces gouvernements que notre Eurocrate espère etablir un dialogue permanent—ce qui laisse supposer que la supranationalité n'est pas pour demain. . . .

1. En français dans le texte. Le major veut dire sans doute "in the picture", expression argotique anglaise qui signifie "au perfum". (Note du traducteur.)
2. Positif. A moins que le major n'ait voulu dire "constrictif". (N.D.T.)

Pangloss

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THE TIMES
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BARGAINING WITH EUROPE

There are two ways of looking at Britain's contribution to the budget of the European Community and the efforts that the Government is making to reduce them. One is to measure the difficulties that still remain if a satisfactory settlement is to be reached at the summit in Brussels at the end of this month. The other is to look at the progress that has been made so far, at the Dublin summit last year and since. It never looked easy to achieve a "broad balance" between what this country puts into the Community budget and what it gets out: Britain's net contribution for this year has been estimated at some £1,100m, and we have been asking our partners to relieve us of all, or nearly all, of that. But even at Dublin there was an offer of some £350m, through a reduction in British payments into the budget; and there was also agreement that the Commission should examine ways of increasing expenditure in Britain out of the budget. The Commission has since done that, with a list of various types of spending which could be carried out in Britain, and which could fill all or part of the remaining gap.

What now remains is to reach agreement with the other Community countries on what the figure will be, and that will not be easy. The French, for instance, always the hardest bargainers, have said that the offer of £350m no longer stands; and they have complicated the issue by saying that the issue of Britain's budget contributions cannot be settled on its own, but must be part of a wider package including oil and lamb. The Germans have said that they are ready to contribute to a solution of Britain's difficulties, but not by how much.

On the British side, Mrs Thatcher has scaled down her demands, laying less emphasis on the need for a broad balance and more on a "genuine compromise". Britain, it is suggested, would be happy if it ended up paying a net contribution equivalent to that of France —a mere £11m, according to estimates for this year, though it would go up as part of the process of reducing the British contribution. But Mrs Thatcher is still a long way from getting that, and that is what lies behind her statement on television last week that Britain might have to consider withholding part of its budget contribution if it did not get more than "half a loaf".

This is in fact the normal process of Community bargaining, in which the parties start out from positions that are far apart and try to reach a compromise. In this case, however, it needs to be remembered that Britain does have a strong case for a reduction in its contribution, and that it is not failing to show Community spirit in asking for it. In fact, how far the others, including France, are prepared to meet the British request could be seen as a test of *their* Community spirit. It is in no way in line with Community principles that one of the poorer members should be required to subsidize most of the others through the budget. Besides, by drawing attention to the lop-sided nature of the budget, with the predominance of spending on agriculture, Britain is serving the interests of consumers and taxpayers throughout the Community.

It is to be hoped that the bargaining process will lead to a solution at Brussels, at least in principle. Details are now being worked out of the ways in which Britain might receive money from the Community budget—for transport, public utilities, coal mining and urban renewal, for instance—so that when the summit is held agreement should only be necessary on the amounts. The bargaining is being carried out without specific threats, but it is right that Britain should hold some weapons in reserve. One target for a veto, if Britain does not get satisfaction, should be any proposed increase in agricultural prices, whatever the complaints from Britain's own farmers, because of the weight in Britain's difficulties of the common agricultural policy.

LORD DENNING BOWLS TOO WIDE

Lord Denning, in the course of his stimulating judgment in the jury vetting case, suggested the following way of resolving the undoubted confusion which often results from different courts and judges interpreting the meaning of statutory provisions in vastly different ways: "Whenever you have a choice between two interpretations, it is for the judges to decide which to adopt. The choice is a matter of policy for the law—which gives the most sensible result? It is not a semantic or linguistic exercise. Nine times out of ten you will find that judges will agree on what is the sensible result—even though they disagree on the semantics or linguistic result."

Lord Denning's approach is superficially attractive. He can call in support the fact that in some of the more recent cases of controversy, especially those dealing with trade union immunities, a number of judges expressed the view that, on merit, they would have liked to have come to a particular decision, but felt compelled, on looking at the words used in the statute, to conclude the opposite.

What Lord Denning is trying to do is to import into the interpretation of statutory provisions the same degree of judicial creativity as is normally applied to developing the common law. The tradition of English law does not support that approach. It may be acceptable to introduce a qualifying element of equity into the harsh rules of statutory construction, but it is dangerous to go on to say, as Lord Denning appears to be saying, that whenever there is more than one possible interpretation, the "sensible result" should apply, which, in Lord Denning's terms, means the equitable result.

He does not suggest that such a result should conform to what Parliament intended or that it should follow the natural and obvious meaning of the words in issue; it would be, under his formula, for the majority of judges to determine the sensible result. That would be to usurp Parliament's function, and give judges a power which the vast majority of them neither seek nor are capable of exercising. Lord Denning is optimistic in saying that nine times out of ten judges would agree on the sensible result. Their appreciation of what would be sensible may easily differ as much as their linguistic or semantic interpretation of statutory provisions.

What factors would they take into account when deciding common sense? Would they be entitled to consider extraneous circumstances? If so, would not their assessment of the "sensible result" involve them in reaching a political or emotional appreciation? We have, especially in recent months, usually supported Lord Denning in his interpretation of statute, in preference to the view taken by the House of Lords, but we have done so because we have been of the opinion that his more liberal approach to a particular law happened also to be the better way of doing justice. His new test, however, would not merely involve choosing the more just of two tenable options, but would super-impose a completely new criterion of interpretation. Much as his instincts are to be admired, he is, in this instance, going too far.

THE RISKS OF A SOUND POLICY

Two approaches to the education of handicapped children clashed in the debate over the Warnock report, whose main conclusions were belatedly accepted by the Government yesterday. Historically, provision for children with physical or mental disabilities grew up somewhat apart from the ordinary educational system. Charitable initiative tended to recognize new categories of need successively and separately, and (in spite of the intentions behind the 1944 Education Act) education authorities usually preferred until only a few years ago to provide separate schools rather than develop provision in ordinary schools. The motive was to ensure that handicapped children received special care and attention, but the effect was also to confirm them in a sense of being different and dependent, set apart from the ordinary life of the community.

In reality there is no sharp distinction between children who are handicapped and those who are not, and the Warnock committee proposed new arrangements taking account of the fact that a continuum of ability exists. The statutory categories which label children according to the nature of their disabilities should be replaced by a system assessing them according to their actual educational needs. Some children will of course always need care that ordinary schools cannot provide, but the gulf between ordinary and special education should be made as small as possible. At the same time, the latter category should be widened to include what is now known as remedial education, making special education something that as many as one child in five might receive at some stage of their school careers.

The aim of removing a stigma is an excellent one, and the plan should in principle mean a great increase in flexibility. But it is impossible wholly to dismiss some misgivings about its implementation. The idea behind separate provision was special care, and though it would be too crude to say that in future children with handicaps may exchange the drawbacks of mollycoddling for those of being tossed unprotected into the educational rough and tumble, it is true that extensive and costly provision needs to be made to ensure that they do not suffer. Teachers will need special in-service training; new and more refined expert assessments will need to be made of each child's educational needs, and some physical modification of school buildings will no doubt be necessary. The report calls for a large expansion of nursery schooling, and provision for the handicapped over-sixteens.

This would be required at a time when education everywhere is afflicted with sharp spending cuts, and parental concern about mixed-ability teaching is already acute. The Government's expenditure plans allow for spending on children with special needs to remain steady while the number of such children is falling in line with demographic trends. This provides some latitude, but not much. It would be a travesty of the Warnock plan (but squarely in line with precedent in the field of mental health) if separate facilities were run down before adequate provision had been made outside.

Cuts in BBC music

From Mr Ian Wallace

Sir, The BBC's announcement (February 29) that it proposes to eliminate nearly half its orchestras can be interpreted in two ways. If Mr Trethowan is in earnest he is accepting the need for a catastrophe. If he is using shock tactics to underline the necessity of finding other means of paying for the BBC's enormous contribution to music of all kinds in this country, his statement may have provided the necessary stimulus.

Catastrophe is not too strong a word for orchestral players living in Scotland and Northern Ireland who would have little chance of another job in those countries, but the implications go further. Traditionally, regional BBC house orchestras have provided invaluable experience for gifted young players and for some of our best conductors at the start of their careers: an important part of the corporation's role as a major patron of the arts.

Add the blow to national pride which the disbanding of these orchestras would inevitably cause (as a Scot my reaction is: "Why the hell should Scotland have to be content with one symphony orchestra in the latter half of the twentieth century?") and it becomes more likely that our withers are being wrung in the hope of some other solution being found as a result.

Cuts are an accepted necessity and the alternative is self-help. In the arts that means sponsorship. If the BBC, the biggest promoter of music in the country, is denied adequate licence money (though that inadequacy would be much less if more defaulters could be inexpensively detected), has the time not come for some advertising (on BBC radio at least) to redress the balance?

Would not an experimental period on Radio 1 and 2 be merely an extension of the advertising of records? Alternatively, might not commercial sponsors be found for these orchestras?

It is not only in the BBC that music appears to be taking an unfair share of cuts. There is a growing feeling among teachers of music in schools that their subject is regarded by some boards of management as a luxury that can be painlessly removed before considering other subjects. The effect of depriving some children of even a rudimentary musical education, plus the BBC's reduction of professional opportunities later, is hardly the way to prepare for the age of leisure which, we are told, is round the corner.

Mr Trethowan has an unenviable task. But if his statement is intended to start a public debate about other means of raising the necessary revenue to reprieve these orchestras and other services he can count on warm support from the society I represent. If, on the other hand, the BBC decides to implement this programme of retrenchment, we shall do everything possible to influence public opinion against it.

A good orchestra takes years to build. A school class without a skilled music teacher miss something that might have enriched their lives. When we start cutting at the fabric of our cultural life we must first be quite sure that there is no alternative.

Yours faithfully,
IAN WALLACE,
President,
The Incorporated Society of Musicians,
10 Stratford Place, W1.

Riding shotgun

From Colonel H. C. B. Rogers

Sir, Mr J. R. Speirs is quite wrong (February 29) in saying that in the early days it was the custom to shoot the ticket collector on the railway between Peshawar and Landi Kotal. Indeed, the only rule in the Khyber about shooting was that it was not to be done within a hundred yards of the road or railway, or across either. When I was stationed in the Khyber Pass in 1929-30, one Pathan shot another on Landi Kotal railway station. The man's village was fined Rs 100 for shooting within a hundred yards of the railway!

Yours faithfully,
H. C. B. ROGERS,
209 Reading Road,
Wokingham,
Berkshire.
February 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cruise missiles in Britain

From Air Vice-Marshal S. W. B. Menaul

Sir, The letter in today's issue (February 27) signed by 10 professors, whose knowledge of the subject matter is clearly minimal, is so naive and shot through with inaccuracies that one wonders if it is meant to be taken seriously.

The letter compares the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan with the decision by the Nato Council (not just the United States) to deploy cruise missiles in Britain and in four other European countries and advocates some sort of trade-off with the Soviet Union—withdrawal from Afghanistan for cruise missiles in Britain. In support of this ludicrous suggestion the professors claim that the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain will "multiply the lethal danger of accident or miscalculation".

Nuclear warheads on manned aircraft and missiles, including United States aircraft and missiles, have been deployed in Britain since the early 1950s. There have been no accidents and no miscalculations in the past thirty years.

The Nato Council's decision to deploy cruise missiles in Britain and Europe is intended to redress the serious imbalance in theatre nuclear weapons (which favours the Soviet Union) and improve Nato's capability to *deter* war, not make it more likely as the professors erroneously assume. Britain has been a target for nuclear attack since the Soviet Union acquired nuclear weapons in 1949. It is still, and will remain, a target for nuclear attack whether or not cruise missiles are deployed on her soil.

The professors beseech the Government to reverse the decision which gave authority for cruise missiles to be deployed in Britain, and if this should fail, they urge the people of Britain to join their band of brothers in what they describe as "contesting the installation of cruise missiles in Britain".

The vast majority of British people are professors of common sense; they will do nothing of the sort. The people of Britain and indeed of the whole Nato alliance have no wish to become part of the Soviet communist empire either by war or subversion.

Yours faithfully,
STEWART MENAUL,
The Lodge,
Frensham Vale,
Lower Bourne,
Farnham,
Surrey.
February 27.

Public relations

From Miss Eirlys Roberts

Sir, May I support your leading article of March 1, "Explain it to the people"?

After the last war, Sir Stafford Cripps set up inside the Cabinet Office a unit whose job it was to explain to as many people as would listen to grim facts of the country's economic situation. He enrolled, as head, S. C. Leslie from the gas industry (which has always been good at public relations, whatever Bernard Levin's mother may say) and Lydia Horton from the Ministry of Food (which, during the war, had actualy persuaded the English to eat green vegetables).

Many listened and, since the language was plain, understood. Not everyone agreed with the conclusions, as was their right. What mattered was that the Government had sufficient faith in the intelligence of its people so to explain its policies. Since then, no government, Conservative or Labour, has shown the same faith.

As you say in your leader, but more elegantly, it's about time that one of them did.

Yours sincerely,
EIRLYS ROBERTS,
8 Lloyd Square, WC1.
March 2.

Cabins in the sky

From Mr G. E. Powderham

Sir, British Airways have recently announced that they are withdrawing their first-class travel facilities between London and Paris from the end of March and later from other European routes. They are to offer a club class which is a "nice" way of saying, less room and less service for less money—but presumably making more profit.

This is just the latest of many gradual but consistent erosions of International first-class facilities, which are still going on. Must the answers to operating economic problems always be to provide less quality and less service?

Are the wealthier clientele and business executive customers of British Airways (we take more care of you!!) so unimportant that they don't need to be asked?

If cheap fares are all that eventually matter air travel is going to become an increasingly drab and dreary business. A grim prospect for those of us who *have* to travel. Who said "Exporting can be fun."?

Yours faithfully,
G. E. POWDERHAM,
Roussel Laboratories Limited,
Roussel House,
Wembley Park, Middlesex.
February 25.

Immune to reason

From Mr P. J. Stewart

Sir, The commission investigating the ex-Shah's alleged crime is not a "meaningless tribunal" (*The Times*, February 21). Its meaning is alas all too clear to terrorists all over the world: that government will cede rather than risk the lives of embassy staff.

It is scandalous that, after encouraging violence against an embassy for more than three months, Iran still enjoys almost normal diplomatic relations with most countries, including our own.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. STEWART,
St Cross College,
Oxford.
February 28.

Hyper-inflation and public spending

From Professor Sir Henry Phelps Brown, FBA

Sir, In his broadcast interview after last week's censure debate, the Chancellor of the Exchequer treated monetarism not as one theory among others but as an incontrovertible principle like the law of gravitation. I do not know what economic principle any government can proceed upon that has such certainty. If a principle is to guide policy it must foretell how people will respond to the measures that government takes. These people are not the economic men that may suffice for model building and the writing of equations, but the men and women of these islands as they are minded today. How they will respond to monetary constraint can only be a matter of judgment.

We may well ask if it will bring about that lasting change in their attitude towards pay claims and the use that groups think themselves justified in making of their bargaining power, which is the necessary condition for ending cost inflation. Monetarists used to expect this change in attitudes to be brought about by an inbuilt adjustment of expectations. They look for it now through the contraction of demand and rise of unemployment, and the prospect this makes plain that further pay rises will cost more jobs. But the question is whether this change in attitudes will be more than temporary. Let us suppose that the depression is carried far enough to suppress the accustomed impulse towards pay rises across a wide front. Let us suppose too that the Government's strategy follows its intended course, and after two or three years an industrial revival sets in vigorously. Must we not expect that pent-up claims will be asserted then, as they used to be in the recovery from the trough of the old business cycle, but this time also with an animus fed by the belief that the trough was inflicted by the Government?

In this respect monetarism is far from assured of what is claimed as a great advantage over incomes policy. It has been pointed out that in this country—in The Netherlands and Scandinavia the record has been different—incomes policy has not held for more than two years together, and has been followed by an outburst. We have yet to see whether monetarism is not also temporary in its effect.

Moreover it does not work constructively meanwhile. If restraint is not to be enforced by the iron hand of unemployment indefinitely it must come to be accepted voluntarily, out of understanding and citizenship, as the rule of law is generally accepted. The problem is how to gain sufficient acceptance of guidelines for them to be enforceable in a field where hitherto there have been no such restraints on self-interest. There is this to be said for a renewed attempt to develop incomes policy, that it is educative, and it is not divisive. Attitudes towards pay based on comparability and custom are deep laid: it would have been amazing if they had been given up in favour of guidelines when these were first laid down. But in tripartite meetings at the national level and in procedures developed for working policy out, incomes policy rests on an appeal to reason and the spread of information. Monetarism by contrast relies on impersonal market forces in a field of human relations, and deals with fellow countrymen at arm's length: it hardens attitudes and alienates. Neither monetarism nor incomes policy offers the immediate prospect of instituting a lasting order, but incomes policy works towards the change in attitudes without which order cannot be kept in the longer run.

Yours sincerely,
HENRY PHELPS BROWN,
16 Bradmore Road,
Oxford.
March 3.

From Sir Peter Proby

Sir, I strongly support the Government's general policy of trying to reduce public expenditure. But I am worried because they seem to be setting about the job by using a blunt instrument instead of a selective scalpel. And they do not appear to be giving sufficient thought to possible ways of helping those who will be worst affected by the reduction of public services.

There are many voluntary associations working in the fields in which public services are being cut. These associations could help to compensate for some of the cuts by stimulating self-help within the local communities. But many of them depend upon employing one salaried professional who is their county or regional secretary, and inflation is making it ever more difficult to raise the money for this professional's salary. The paradoxical fact is that the need to reduce expenditure on public services strengthens the case for giving grant aid for the administrative costs of voluntary associations, so that they can keep their organizations in being. The more public expenditure is cut, the more important it is to have a policy for stimulating voluntary associations and community self-help, even although this will involve some expenditure.

Yours truly,
PETER PROBY,
Pottle Green,
Elton,
Peterborough.
February 28.

From Sir Geoffrey Vickers, VC

Sir, Your leader on hyper-inflation (February 26) asks the "good guys" whether their alternatives include more taxation. As good economists and monetarists they might reply. "Yes, we want to make direct taxation at least to its former level; to cut indirect taxation though not to a commensurate extent; and to use the saving partly to slow the rate of cuts in public expenditure and partly to reduce the borrowing requirement". Such a package would be far more deflationary than the present one and perhaps far less socially divisive. And it would at least make government policy credible, which it cannot be whilst public impoverishment is seen as so largely self-imposed.

Your analysis seems to me to confirm the view that the reduction of the basic rate of income tax last year was financially and psychologically the most inept and untimely decision of the century. But the good guys can hardly say so—yet.

Yours very truly,
GEOFFREY VICKERS,
The Grange,
Manor Road,
Goring,
Reading,
Berkshire.
February 29

Return to gold standard

From Lord Boothby

Sir, In his letter this morning (March 3) Sir John Musker urges the Chancellor of the Exchequer to remember the Arab proverb quoted by Lord Norman in a speech at the Mansion House, when he was Governor of the Bank of England, that "the dogs may bark but the caravan marches on".

I hope he will do no such thing. Norman's caravan marched us steadily and straight to disaster. And, as one of the dogs who barked in vain, may I remind Sir John that it was Norman who (1) took us back to the gold standard in 1925 at the wrong and fixed parity of exchange: (2) imposed upon successive Chancellors of the Exchequer the deflationary policies required to maintain that parity, which brought massive unemployment and untold misery to this country for over 10 years; and (3) inspired Snowden's savage Budget of 1931, which caused a mutiny in the fleet, and was rightly described by Keynes as, "replete with folly and injustice". Finally, it was Norman who, by pouring money into Germany from the City of London and stifling economic growth at home, did almost as much to bring Hitler to power as his friend and opposite number in Berlin, Dr Schacht.

On February 6, 1932, Sir Winston Churchill who, as Chancellor, had suffered bitterly from Norman's advice, wrote to me from Chicago: "Surely it will become a public necessity to get rid of Montagu Norman. No man has ever been stultified as he has been in his 14 years' policy." And after this I said in a speech in the House of Commons on April 25: "A statesman is judged by results. If his policy fails he goes. It may be unfair, but there is a kind of rough justice about it. Mr Montagu Norman, on the other hand, is never called upon to explain or justify or defend his policy; and it is his policy which has been carried out for the last 10 years. Governments may come and governments may go, but the Governor of the Bank of England goes on for ever. It is a classic example of power without responsibility. . . . I do not ask for more, at the moment, than an assurance that the policy of deflation which has brought such misery and wrought such terrible damage to this country is no longer to be continued."

Sir, the answer to the problem of world recession and inflation which now besets us has not been given either by the Militants of the Left, or the Friedmaniacs of the Right. It is to be found in giving gold a proper role to play in the international monetary system, as the basis of credit, by means of a gold exchange standard, with gold at a realistic price, effective cooperation between Central Banks, and flexible exchange rates. Only thus can we provide sufficient liquid reserves to finance increased production and trade, and at the same time provide the ultimate international disciplines necessary to prevent inflation. So long as money remains paper throughout the world, there is no hope of stopping inflation.

In the regrettable absence of General de Gaulle, you and I seem to be the only people who now realize this. We can only hope that not only the professional economists but also governments—and above all the Government of the United States who demonetized gold—will see the light before it is too late.

Your obedient servant,
BOOTHBY,
House of Lords.
March 3.

Stern fellowship

From Lord Lever of Manchester and others

Sir, Laurence M. Stern was one of the creators of the modern *Washington Post*, and was admired by journalists all over the world. When he died, tragically young, last summer, several of the obituaries made a point of his special friendship with and generous help to British journalists in particular in Washington.

A group of his friends in Britain has decided that the best way of commemorating this work of education is to continue it. Many of your readers may be interested to know that Benjamin Bradlee, the editor of the *Washington Post*, has agreed to take one young British journalist for three months every summer to work on the national staff of the *Washington Post* as the Laurence Stern fellow.

We would like this letter to be an invitation to any young journalist who may be interested in working at the *Washington Post* this summer to contact the Laurence Stern Fellowship, care of the Department of Journalism, The City University, Northampton Square, London, EC1. Details will be widely advertised, and the final choice of a fellow will be made by Benjamin Bradlee himself.

Yours, etc,
HAROLD LEVER,
HAROLD EVANS,
JOHN FREEMAN,
GUS MacDONALD,
BRUCE PAGE,
WILLIAM SHAWCROSS,
FELICITY BRYAN,
GODFREY HODGSON,
DAVID WATT,
The Laurence Stern Fellowship,
Department of Journalism,
The City University,
Northampton Square, EC1.
February 23.

End of Rome scholarships

From Professor Peter de Francia

Sir, It has been announced that the 1851 Commissioners' Board of Management have decided to qualify their support for the Rome Scholarships in Art and Architecture; and that these are to be phased out after the middle of 1982.

These scholarships, based in the British School at Rome and financed from the funds of the 1851 Commission, are among the dwindling number of opportunities offered to young painters, sculptors, architects and printmakers to study abroad. In terms of length of tenure and working facilities they are unique. This announcement will cause consternation to all concerned with the future of art in this country; for not only will it result in the impoverishment of the school by curtailing the range of disciplines they house, but it will make this country virtually the only one not to have Rome Scholars studying art in Rome.

This decision stems from the findings of the report made in 1970 by the ad hoc committee of inquiry set up by the British Academy, at the commissioners' request and under the chairmanship of Lord Robbins. In this report a moral responsibility was placed upon the commissioners not to withdraw support for the Rome Scholarships before their future had been safeguarded. It appears that the Board of Management believe the requirement of their charter to "extend the influence of art upon productive industry" has been made redundant by the emergence of "industrial design as a recognized discipline". This, they assume, has removed any such responsibility, and the funds can and should now be diverted to the support of technological research.

This assumption is a fallacy, and betrays a lamentable lack of knowledge of the historical development of both the theory and the practice of design, particularly in this century. The interrelationship of art and technology was of fundamental importance to the inception and development of the Renaissance in Italy and elsewhere; the notion that the visual arts and craft-based design were inseparable formed the core of William Morris's innovatory ideas; the fact that art and design, and specifically industrial design, were indissoluble was a fundamental concept of the Bauhaus, the institution from which most contemporary schools of industrial design are derived. The recognition of industrial design as a discipline does nothing to replace or negate the value of these links.

The assumption is also short-sighted. Technological progress may be vital to the future of this country; but it will be worthless if it has to be achieved at the cost of the country's cultural future.

I am, yours sincerely,
PETER DE FRANCIA,
Royal College of Art,
Exhibition Road, SW7.
February 27.

Sprucing up hillsides

From Mr David Miles

Sir, With regard to the present discussions about afforestation it is worth considering that the uplands of Britain are to a large extent a man-made environment. Clearance of their natural tree cover was begun at least as early as the fourth millenium BC by the first farmers: open country was widespread by the beginning of our era.

As a result the uplands are a rich repository of archaeological remains: prehistoric and later settlements, ancient fields and burial mounds. These are being preserved by the traditional pastoral farming practices of the highland zone while contemporary sites have been extensively destroyed in the lowlands. The recent ploughing-up of moorland margins, on Exmoor for example, has already led to the erosion of archaeological evidence. A large programme of afforestation would have serious implications for archaeology in just those areas where archaeologists are a rare species and little systematic survey work has been done.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MILES,
Honorary Secretary,
Council for British Archaeology Countryside Committee,
32 Bear Close,
Woodstock,
Oxfordshire.
February 28.

Sound an alarm

From Mr Robert Tear

Sir, I would like to add my voice to the concern being expressed over the future of the Argo Record Company (Arts Diary, February 28). Over many years now, they have successfully explored seemingly uncommercial music. They have founded a new market which clearly had been uncatered for before. They have broadened musical taste. They have been champions of modern composers.

Surely there is room for such a company to survive? One, of course, does not know that the huge PolyGram empire will completely extinguish its enterprising flame, but one must presume that the health of Argo would be better protected by a smaller, and one might hope, English institution.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT TEAR,
11 Ravenscourt Square, W6.
February 28.

A word for the Vikings

From Mr J. A. Gere

Sir, Mr Iain A. Crawford describes himself as "that *rara avis*, an excavator who has actually viewed the impact of the Vikings on indigenous settlement". A *rara avis* indeed—as long-lived as the phoenix!

Yours, etc,
J. A. GERE,
21 Lamont Road, SW10
February 27.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the 57th *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Earls Court and were received upon arrival by the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Councillor Christopher Walford) and the Viscount Rothermere (Chairman, Associated Newspapers Group Ltd).

The Duchess of Grafton, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present this evening at a dinner in aid of the Home for Aged Jews (President, Mr C. Elsom) at the King David Suite, Great Cumberland Place, W1 and was received upon arrival by the Vice-President (Sir Charles Abrahams).

Wing Commander Antony Nicholson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 3: The Duke of Gloucester as Ranger, attended a Banquet and Celebration in aid of Epping Forest Centenary Trust at Whitbread's Banqueting Hall, Chiswell Street, London EC1 this evening.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a cocktail party for the British Industry 1500 Club in aid of the 1980 America's Cup challenge at the Mansion House on March 6.

Princess Anne will open the London Transport Museum at Covent Garden on March 28.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent will attend a recital given by Miss Moura Lympany at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists at 7.30 pm on March 18. Tickets, at £7 for the concert and reception or £25 for the concert, reception and dinner, are obtainable from Mrs V. Parry, 27 Sussex Place, London, NW1 4SP. (Telephone: 01-723 9296.)

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. J. Powell-Jones and Miss F. E. Fraser
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on March 29 between Robert, son of Mr J. E. Powell-Jones, CMG, and Mrs Ann Paludan, and Flora Elizabeth, daughter of the Hon Hugh Fraser, MP, and Lady Antonia Fraser.

Mr A. H. O. Brassey and Mrs S. S. Burgoyne
The engagement is announced between Antony, elder son of Colonel and Mrs Hugh Brassey, of The Manor Farm, Little Somerford, Chippenham, Wiltshire, and Susie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Fuglesang, of Upper Ease, Ansty, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Mr J. H. Farrington and Miss C. J. Miers
The engagement is announced between Jeffrey Hay, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jack Farrington, of Columbus, Ohio, and Caroline Jane, daughter of the late Brigadier R. C. H. Miers and of Mrs Miers, of Athens, Ohio, and O Strand-on-the-Green, London, W4 3PQ.

Mr J. V. Luxmoore and Miss S. A. S. Walton
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of the Rev C. C. and Mrs Luxmoore, of Headingley Vicarage, Leeds, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. D. Walton, of Silverwood House, Sandy Way, Cobham, Surrey.

Mr A. M. G. Martelli and Miss G. M. F. Weld
The engagement is announced between Amyas, youngest son of Lieutenant-Commander G. A. Martelli, RN (retd), and Mrs Martelli, of Wooth Manor, Bridport, Dorset, and Gabriel, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel H. J. G. Weld MC and Mrs Weld, of Chideock Manor, Bridport, Dorset.

Marriage

Mr T. J. Davies and Miss A. V. Longworth
The marriage took place on March 1 at the Parish Church of St Mary, Saltford, Bristol, between Mr Terence John Davies, son of Mr and Mrs W. J. Davies, of 104 Frederick Neale Avenue, Eastern Green, Coventry, and Miss Amanda Vivien Longworth, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. R. Longworth, of Folly Orchard, The Folly, Saltford, Bristol.
A reception was held at the Francis Hotel, Bath.

Arts tours in Scotland to be encouraged

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

Steps towards encouraging touring in Scotland by the main opera, ballet and drama companies are recommended in a report published by a Scottish Arts Council working party.

The council said yesterday that as soon as circumstances and finance allowed, it would implement the proposals. They include the appointment of a director of touring.

Theatre people, local authorities and the public will be asked for their views on the report.

The working party, with Miss Eluned Brown in the chair, was set up in November, 1977, and asked to review the council's policy towards the support and coordination of large-scale and medium-scale touring, both by companies normally resident in Scotland and by companies visiting Scotland from other parts of the United Kingdom and abroad. It was also asked to look at costs.

It sees the formation of a touring department as its main recommendation, adding that without it the Scottish Arts Council would not be able to promote or coordinate tours efficiently.

"Pressures on present staff members from their other and main functions convinced us that the existing unsatisfactory arrangements cannot continue.

"The need for a new department should be seen not as expansion which can be afforded when times are more propitious, but as an urgent necessity in order to relieve intolerable burdens and to make efficient use of all the council's resources."

It estimates that extra salaries and expenses needed to staff the department would be "quite modest", about £22,000 a year at today's costs. Total expenditure on touring is about £284,000, excluding staff costs, to which local government contributes about £60,000.

So a doubling of activity is envisaged in real terms, although that could take two or three years to build up and would cost SAC perhaps an extra £70,000 towards programme costs and £22,000 for staff.

The report emphasizes the need for considerable care in selecting imported shows for touring; quality is the main consideration. "Television has brought about a revolution in standards and audience expectation, which has been salutary for all the performing arts."

The working party says it also hopes to see in Scotland on a continuing and regular basis the work of such main companies as Glyndebourne Touring Opera, English National Opera, Welsh National Opera and others all seen occasionally.

The Scottish Arts Council's Report on Touring in Scotland; (SAC, 19 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DF, free).

Elvis napkin is sold for £500

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A paper table napkin of the Las Vegas Riviera Hotel, Nevada, signed and inscribed by Elvis Presley was bid up to £500 at Sotheby's yesterday. The auctioneers had forecast £80 to £120 for this inconsequential relic of a beloved pop star. However, Mr B. Brodie, a proprietor of the Cross Keys public house, in Covent Garden, was made of sterner stuff.

He also spent £480 (estimate £300 to £400) on a collection of 14 early photographs of the Beatles, signed and inscribed by them. Included in the lot were two gramophone records of their early successes (scratched) "Love Me Do" and "Please Please Me".

Mr Brodie spent another £220 (estimate £60 to £80) on four American dollar bills, each with an autograph dedication signed by one of the Beatles.

The Rolling Stones also came in on this new monied market for pop relics. A collection of letters and signatures of members of the group sold for £220 (estimate £60 to £80).

On a more historic note, a horn snuff-box bearing a silver plaque inscribed: "Presented by Admiral Lord Nelson to Admiral Sir Charles Bullen (Captain of HMS Britannia at the Battle of Trafalgar) a Souvenir of Loyal Service and Affectionate Comradeship", sold for £650 (estimate £200 to £400).

The sale of manuscript material totalled £25,409, with 4 per cent unsold.

Christie's continued their series of sales devoted to original porcelain factory models from the showroom of the Etablissement Edmé Samson. In the late nineteenth and early twenties century Samson would copy the finest oriental and European porcelain to order, and do it so well that even experts can have difficulty in distinguishing between copy and original.

In each of Christie's sales a different area of copies has met the strongest demand. Yesterday it was the turn of copies of Japanese originals; Japanese buyers were competing fiercely with London's oriental porcelain dealers.

Wright paid £800 (estimate £100 to £180) for an octagonal deep bowl painted in the Kakiemon style.

European debut for Russian dancers

The Russian ballet dancers Leonid Kozlov and Valentina Kozlova, who defected from the Bolshoi in the United States last autumn, make their first European appearances at a gala on March 16 at the London Coliseum. Natalia Makarova, Zizi Jeanmaire and Anthony Dowell are also appearing.

Photograph by Chris Ball

New York show: Sir Harold and Lady Wilson talking to Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Minister for the Arts, at the opening of the "Celebration: New York in colour" exhibition at the National Theatre in London yesterday. On show until April 12 are more than a hundred huge colour photographs of the city and its people.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday, in honour of the New Hebrides Moderate Delegation.

Dinners

Epping Forest Centenary Trust
The Duke of Gloucester was the guest of honour at the Epping Forest Centenary Trust dinner held at Whitbread's Brewery, Chiswell Street, EC1 yesterday. Mr Terence Mallinson, chairman of the trust, was in the chair. Among others present were:
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Earl Jellicoe, the Bishop of Chelmsford and Mrs Trillo, Lord and Lady Buxton of Alsa, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, and Lady Lloyd of Kilgerran, Sir Hereward and Lady Wake, Sir Henry Warner, Sir Terence and Lady Beckett, Sir Andrew and Lady Cornwallis, Sir Frederick Gibberd, Admiral Sir Andrew and Lady Lewis, Sir Stuart Mallinson, Sir Arthur and Lady Noble, Sir William Addison, Lady (Philip) Powell, Sir Denis and Lady Truscott, Sir Rowland and Lady Wright, Mr H. C. Whitbread, Mr Ray Cooney, Mr John Yates, Major John Reid, Mr Ernest Sharp and Councillor and Mrs E. G. Barnett.

Chatham Dining Club
The Chatham Dining Club held a dinner at the St Ermin's Hotel yesterday. Lord Home of the Hirsel was the principal guest and Mr James Ramsden was in the chair.

Capital Radio
Mr Graham Binns, deputy chairman, Mr John Whitney, managing director, and other directors of Capital Radio gave a dinner at Grosvenor House last night at which Capital's annual music awards were presented. Among those present were:
Lady Plowden, Mrs Graham Binns, Mrs John Whitney, Mrs John Thompson, Miss Felicity Lane Fox, Mr and Mrs George Martin, Mr and Mrs Barclay Barclay White, Mr and Mrs W. H. Beets, Mr and Mrs Keith Glemre, Mr and Mrs Roger Harrison, Mr and Mrs David Jacobs, Mr and Mrs Robert Kennedy, Mr Brian Morgan and Mr and Mrs Robert Stibe.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Tony Savage, scientific adviser to the National Society against Factory Farming, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas League's discussion circle held at Over-Seas House, St James's, last night. Miss Madge Gill was in the chair.

Memorial service

Professor E. C. Cherry
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Colin Cherry was held at Holy Trinity, Brompton, on Friday. The Rev S. Miller officiated, Dr Geoffrey Hawkins read the lesson and Lord Briggs, Provost of Worcester College, Oxford, gave an address.

Birthdays today

Mr Basil Boothroyd 70; Sir Arthur Bryan, 57; Professor H. J. Eysenck, 64; Miss Joan Greenwood, 59; Sir Geoffrey Jackson, 65; Sir Ralph Millais, 75; Mr Patrick Moore, 57; Colonel Sir John Carew Pole, 78; Mr Alan Sillitoe, 52; Dame Albertine Winner, 73.

Today's engagements

The Queen holds an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, 11.00 am.
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Admiral, attends seventy-fifth anniversary lunch of Royal Motor Yacht Club, Guildhall crypt, 12.45 pm; as patron of the Royal College of General Practitioners holds reception at Buckingham Palace, 6.00 pm.
Exhibitions: The Vikings, British Museum, 10.00 am—5.00 pm; Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Earls Court 10.00 am—9.00 pm; Chelsea Antiques Fair, Old Town Hall, 11.00 am—7.30 pm; Chinese court costume, Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, 10.00 am—5.00 pm.
Lectures: "Arts and London", National Gallery, Room 25, by Roy Battcock, 1.00 pm; "Foxes and badgers", British Museum, lecture hall, 3.00 pm.
Memorial services: Lord Pearson, Temple Church, 4.45 pm; Mr Sam Leitch, St Bride's, Fleet Street, 12.30 pm.

Architect wins gold medal

Mr James Stirling, one of Britain's most controversial architects, has been awarded the Royal Gold Medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Much of his work has been on university buildings, with those at Oxford and Cambridge characterized by the use of red industrial tiling, exposed services, steel trusses and glass walling.

Latest appointments

Mr Frank Judd, former Labour MP for Portsmouth, North, and Minister of State for Overseas Development in 1976-77, who has been appointed director of Voluntary Service Overseas. He succeeds Mr David Collett.

Other appointments include:

Captain D. M. Eckersley-Maslin to be promoted rear-admiral on July 7 and to be Flag Officer Sea Training in September in succession to Rear-Admiral A. J. Whetstone.

Mr Anthony Garrett, aged 62, a director of the Harlech Television Group and of T. J. and J. Smith, and former chairman and managing director of Imperial Tobacco, to be chairman of the National Association of Boys' Clubs in succession to Earl Spencer.

Mr Dennis Farr, director of the City Museums and Art Gallery, Birmingham, to be director of the Courtauld Institute Galleries, London University, in succession to Mr Philip Troutman, curator of the collections.

Mr John Morris, deputy county education officer for Essex, to be county education officer.

Mr Robert Sharp, aged 43, a deputy county education officer for Somerset, to be deputy county education officer for Essex.

Dr Donald Bligh to be chairman of the Society for Research into Higher Education; Miss Harriet Greenaway to be vice-chairman; Dr Robert Oxtoby to be secretary; Dr David Billing to be treasurer; Mr Rowland Eustace to be administrator.

Lord Winstanley, chairman of the Countryside Commission, broadcaster and journalist, to be a new member of the Water Space Amenity Commission with Professor Elizabeth Brunner, professor of economics at Lancaster University, Mr Mark Andrew, member of West Yorkshire county council, and Mr E. C. J. Whittingham, accountant and chairman of Shropshire County Council.

Legal

Mr Geoffrey John Binns to be a circuit judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

OBITUARY

MR RICHARD BLACKWELL

Growth of family bookselling firm

Mr Richard Blackwell, chairman of Blackwell's the booksellers, died on February 26.

One of the sons of Sir Basil Blackwell, president of the family firm, he was born in 1918. From the Dragon School at Oxford he won a scholarship to Winchester and from there a scholarship to New College Oxford, where in 1938 he achieved a First in the School of Classical Honour Moderations. The war prevented the culmination of his career in scholarship and he did not return later to complete his final degree in the School of Literae Humaniores, but was content with a war time degree.

His six and a half years of war service were spent in the Royal Navy where he saw action and hardship on the Russian convoy routes and also in the Mediterranean where he won a DSC. He valued the understanding of human relationships and the wider world that Naval service had added to his rather closed background and education. The Navy too provided him with a wife. On survivors' leave, after setting off from Murmansk three times but having the misfortune to be sunk twice, he married in 1942 Marguerite Holliday, daughter of a Yorkshire industrialist and landowner. Her courage and strength were increasingly to complement his own, each, too, in the same self-effacing way.

In 1946 he went to help his father in his business, fulfilling a promise he had made when he was seven.

Blackwell's at the time already enjoyed a high and enviable reputation as one of the best booksellers in the English-speaking world, built up by a hardworking and dedicated staff and perhaps liberal credit to generations of undergraduates. But the actual size and extent of the business in financial terms was by no means so great. It was Richard Blackwell's outstanding achievement to build a large, complex and successful business on this base, without allowing in any way sheer size to damage the firm's reputation for detailed service and attention to individual customers, or the personal attention of the family to the individual employees on whom the growth was so largely dependent.

He achieved this primarily by foreseeing the great post-war growth in higher education throughout the world, the establishment of numerous new universities and libraries and the opportunities for export. But he neglected no opportunity for development.

The many subsidiary and associated companies, general and specialist shops, both in the United Kingdom and on the Continent, printing, binding and publishing, that came into being owe much to his foresight. The most significant of these is perhaps Blackwell's Scientific Publications Ltd, built up by his old friend and colleague Per Saugman. He founded with the Oxford University Press, as joint partner, University Bookshops (Oxford) Ltd in order to improve the supply of academic books to the new universities and as a gesture to the many academics who wanted fully-fledged Blackwells on their green field campus sites. Opportunities arose, perhaps the most significant being the bankruptcy of the Richard Abel library supply business in the United States which, after agonizing discussions, he bravely rescued and converted into Blackwell's North America Inc, greatly to the relief of librarians and publishers.

In all developments and new projects he was careful to master all the details and assiduously to attend all the board meetings, but managers were allowed a great deal of autonomy and freedom both for action and speech.

With his old friend and financial adviser, John Critchley, he helped to found the Smaller Business Association despite his aversion to spending time on anything other than Blackwell's. This later developed into the Association of Independent Businesses which has struck several successful blows on behalf of smaller firms. As a private missionary gesture he personally founded the Mainstream Book Club.

Throughout the years of growth and enterprise Richard Blackwell had the support of his family, above all his father, his brother Julian and latterly his two sons Miles and Nigel. In the early days the wisdom and guidance of his father was an essential factor in his success.

In time Richard steadily relieved his father of the work burden and at the age of 48 he was appointed managing director and three years later he became chairman.

Richard Blackwell was very conscious of the responsibility to his fellow booksellers. In 1962 he worked extremely hard and with foresight for the defence of the Net Book Agreement and played a prominent and arduous part in the case itself before the Restrictive Practices Court. For the two years 1966-68 he was president of the Booksellers Association.

As a person he was quiet and modest. He said that he had had an easy wicket and he never referred to all the hard work, the risks taken, the shrewd and successful judgments, and he was generous in his praise of his colleagues and staff. His style of management was quiet and courteous, though single-minded and determined. He had a stoic character, never displaying personal problems or illness.

At Winchester he had rowed for the school for two years, winning the Public School Fours both years, the second time as captain, and he rowed for several years for the New College First Eight. Later in life he enjoyed his membership of Leander and sailing his cruising yacht off the south coast.

PROFESSOR PATRICK BYRNE

Professor Patrick Byrne CBE, FRCGP, President of the Royal College of General Practitioners from 1973 to 1976, died on February 25 at the age of 66.

Born in Birkenhead of Irish parentage on April 17, 1913, he was educated at St Edward's College, Liverpool, and Liverpool University where he graduated MB, ChB in 1936. Until 1968 he was still a local doctor in the beautiful countryside round Milnthorpe, Westmorland, loved and respected, as he had been for 32 years, by people for whom he himself had a lasting admiration.

By 1968 he had become the first Professor of the General Practice at Manchester University, by 1972 a Consultant Clinical Adviser at the Department of Health and by 1973 President of his Royal College. But to have relinquished at the age of 55 a practice and a home to which he was devoted was for him a real sacrifice.

Realising the limited time left to him to launch a new department, he concentrated his own work on teaching and research, collecting a large and strong team with remarkable speed. His short academic career was unusually productive of books and papers, mainly on the education of General Practitioners. In these he collaborated particularly with Professors J. Freeman and B. E. L. Long, as well as with his own team. *Learning to Care* and *Doctors talking to Patients* helped to establish general practice as an academic discipline in universities and contributed to Byrne's international reputation.

Byrne's advice was sought in many countries. In 1974 he became Chairman of the Leeuwenhorst Group—an independent group linking all EEC countries and some from Eastern Europe. This quickly agreed a European definition of the role of the general practitioner which was subsequently accepted as a basis for training GPs in the European Economic Community. This was a delicate task in which his political judgment served most successfully.

A big man physically, he was a big figure in all he did; a quick and formidable adversary in debate, he invariably made his presence felt. He had a natural gift for speaking, a rich dialect (even with foreigners) and an inexhaustible, ever-ready stock of earthy stories. As a raconteur he had few equals. His success in medicine owed nothing to privilege, but everything to his personality, determination, enthusiasm for work and the support of Kathleen, his wife, also a general practitioner. She survives him with six children.

DON ROSS

Charles Lewsen writes:

Don Ross, who died recently aged 77, was not the last survivor of Music Hall; but he was the last clear-sighted, unsentimental authority on all Music Hall matters.

An acrobatic dancer, training with Fred Farren, choreographer of the Gaiety Theatre, and Cagg's Gentlemen Acrobats (they wore evening dress, not leotards) Don toured the halls, in Britain and on the Continent from 1918—at first the dingey number threes, then on the number one circuit where, as juvenile lead in a musical, he met and, on a balcony high above the stage and just out of sight of the audience, wooed Gertie Gitana, 15 years older than himself, whom he had admired since a childhood in Wigston, Leicestershire.

Offered partnership with Gertie's agent, Don gave up tap shoes and backflips on a perilous staircase set, to become a booker and agent whose word, right to his retirement in the mid 1960s, was unswervingly his bond. The first man to bring a three-ringed circus to Wembley, his proudest achievement was *Thanks for the Memory*.

This was the show that brought a three-years' Indian summer of full houses and return engagements for Gertie, G. H. Elliott, Ella Shields, Nellie Wallace, and music hall itself, in the postwar world of crooners and nudes—for which latter Don must accept some responsibility, since he had, ten years earlier, imported the first stripper from the United States.

A man of intense loyalty, Don was, in 1978, elected King Rat, by the Grand Order of Water Rats, that brotherhood of Variety Artists founded on loyalty, benevolence and unceasing charitable activity. He inspired loyalty too; and, in 1956, when Gertie's death left him desolate for months, Dorothy Ward first disposed of his black tie with scissors, then agreed to come out of retirement if he would write and stage *Dick Whittington* at the Liverpool Pavilion. There, in due course, she slapped her thighs and, in competition with Tommy Steele in his first pantomime at the Empire a mile or so away, belted out "Singin' the Blues".

Don never really retired, serving three years as House Manager for Delfont summer shows, mounting his own pantomimes, last year contributing notably to a radio documentary on theatrical landladies and to the current Radio 2 *Top of the Bill* series; and endlessly searching out acts for meetings of the British Music Hall Society, of which he was, properly, the founding Chairman. Only his stroke 10 weeks ago prevented his staging his own *Jack and the Beanstalk* at Cleethorpes.

Architecture report

Oil technology: High time the barons built a worthy heritage

By Charles McKean

The principal "ages" of development in Britain's history have left us with an architectural legacy possibly unrivalled in Europe.

The age of cotton left fine spinning mills; of lace the great factories in the Lace Market in Nottingham; of railways the great stations, bridges and viaducts; of sanitation the Victoria Embankment, and fine Victorian sewage pumping stations such as that at Abbey Mills; of iron and steel Coalbrookdale; of coal Cardiff castle, Castell Coch and the fine buildings at Butetown; of canals the entire network and special enclaves such as Stourport and Stoke Bruerne; of coal power Battersea and Bankside power stations.

Some of Britain's finest architects were involved in these creations. The tradition continues into the 1930s when the three "new" ages all created a worthwhile inheritance: the Art Deco factory boom along the arterial roads into London and other cities; the leisure boom which led to the Art Deco and Moderne cinemas such as those produced by Oscar Deutsch and his architects, Harry Weedon and George Coles; and the growth of road transport leading to fine garages, filling stations and showrooms.

The Underground system in Britain and Europe were viewed as opportunities for creating something special.

Although possibly the most original were the cast iron creations by Victor Horta for the Paris Métro, the surrealistic stations designed by Charles Holden for London Transport at Arnos Grove and Cockfosters show that the tradition of patronage was still well alive. What a sad contrast, therefore, is London Transport's most recent station at Pimlico which, at best, can only be described as a hole in the ground with a miserable sign sticking up.

The tradition is not entirely dead. British Gas has made a point of ensuring that the new installations for North Sea Gas are of the highest order. Several of these new buildings, including that glistening red and grey collection of spacecraft visible from the main railway line just north of Peterborough at Glinton, have won top awards and architectural commendations.

This year, the architects, Architects Design Group, won the *Financial Times* Award for Industrial Architecture with the new gas installation just north of Aberdeen.

Apart from British Gas, however, patronage in Britain is on the retreat. The Post Office's buildings are designed by the PSA and are only rarely exciting. British Steel is not really in a position to commission exciting new buildings, although in Scotland it has had a number of gems designed for it by Raiach and Hall.

For the most part, commercial developers are content that Britain's reputation for architectural patronage is the lowest in Europe. The faint glimmer of hope that London Transport would build Norman Foster's exciting scheme for Hammersmith Broadway has been killed, apparently, at the behest of the Dutch developers, Bredero, who prefer a "safer" architect. If so, it is sad to see the fledgling steps of an important British public authority towards enlightened patronage cravenly abandoned at the command of a foreign developer.

Even Greycoat estates, whose sponsorship of Richard Rogers for the Coin Street site at Waterloo might seem to indicate some glimmerings of enlightenment, have appointed "safer" architects for Tolmers Square and the Baltic Exchange on the site of the former Cutler Street warehouses.

The real sign of whether Stuart Lipton and his partners at Greycoat have decided to be as adventurous as the American developers whom they admire will come when they appoint an exciting architect, such as Rogers, for a normal scheme that is likely to get planning permission.

The greatest area of unrealized opportunity is oil. It is good to see the main oil companies sponsoring, for example, a series of concerts by the Scottish National Orchestra, or underwriting opera, books, posters and even environmental awards. But nothing at all has so far been done to mark the 1970s' British oil era that is comparable to the steel or railway eras.

In short, no important buildings or exceptional patronage. Instead, one has the slightly uneasy feeling that some companies are having to scratch their heads to devise suitable methods of spending sponsorship money which will help their image.

It is time the oil companies looked to their building programme. It is time they decided to leave as fine an inheritance from the oil era as did the railway companies of the railway era. That does not necessarily mean new buildings—although preferably it should—but could also include the imaginative re-use of existing buildings.

For example, there is a major historic structure in Edinburgh's Royal Mile which needs both extensive repair and a use. Would this not be a suitable place for the oil companies to invest: the restoration of a fine historic structure into a central museum of Britain's oil?

Yet we should expect much more than that from the oil companies. Oil has a clearly defined, high technology image.

This is paralleled by one trend in architecture—the Norman Foster, Richard Rogers, Michael Hopkins, Farrell Grimshaw, Tom Jestico collection. There are many major, prominent, derelict sites both in the oil areas—Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh—as well as in England. Buildings to fill those sites, of a high quality, appropriate technology, and exciting image, could spark the public imagination.

The two architectural institutes—the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, and the Royal Institute of British Architects—have devised a series of competition schemes that could suit any developer's requirements and leave the developer with the final say. A competition is yet another method by which the public imagination can be fired.

It is now up to the "oil barons". They must be persuaded to leave a worthwhile built heritage—one that will symbolize Britain's oil. The sites are there; the competition systems are waiting to be used; and the resulting public impact could be far wider, greater and more long lasting than that achieved by some of the current methods of sponsorship.

Sir Hugh Casson criticizes cheerless design

From Kenneth Gosling
Norwich

Too much modern architecture was aggressive, unhelpful and uninspired, the president of the Royal Academy, Sir Hugh Casson, said yesterday when he opened an exhibition of medieval sculpture from Norwich Cathedral which has gone on display at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts at East Anglia University.

Sir Hugh said Ruskin's requirements of freedom, humility and joy, qualities that shone through the exhibition, hardly described the dominant characteristics of architecture today. The exhibition was mounted with the help of a gift of £1,000 from Sotheby Parke Bernet through the Eastern Arts Association.

Mr Frank Thistlethwaite, the Vice-Chancellor of the university, referred to the group of 100 pieces as "works of art of the highest importance and quality comparable to the best in the country, which serve as a poignant reminder of what might have been lost through comparatively recent neglect".

The exhibition is open until May 4, noon to five, Tuesday to Sunday each week. It is hoped afterwards to stage it at the cathedral.

University news

London
Appointments:
LSE
Lectureships: A. Horsley, BSc (Birmingham), MS (Minnesota), PhD (Birmingham): economics. W. P. Kennedy, PhD (Northwestern): economic history: J. Napier, BA (Oxon), ACA, and J. M. Rutterford, MSc (Oxon), MSc (London): accounting. B. R. Alpern, AB (Princeton), PhD (New York): mathematics. P. A. Dunleavy, BA, DPhil (Oxon): government. M. J. Elliott, BA, BCL (Oxon): law. A. D. Smith, BA (Oxon), MSc, PhD (LSE), Dip History of Art (Reading): sociology. C. J. Fuller, MA, PhD (Cantab): anthropology. P. L. Harris, BA (Sussex), DPhil (Oxon): social psychology. D. Irving, BSc (Reading), Dip Statistics, MSc (LSE): social administration. S. Ramon, BA (Hebrew Univ), MA (Bar-Ilan), PhD (Birmingham): social work.
Fellowships: D. J. Jeremy, BA DipEd (Keele), MLitt (Bristol), to a research fellowship in the business history unit. R. E. Wade, BEd, PhD (Lancaster), to a research fellowship, department of social science and administration. R. E. Peccei, BA (Harvard), BPhil (Oxon), to a British Rail fellowship, department of industrial relations. P. C. Schumacher, BA (Oxon), to a Nancy Seear fellowship in personnel management, department of industrial relations. A. M. Dawe, BA (Leeds), to a Morris Ginsberg fellowship in sociology.

Kent
Appointments
C. Dawson, MSc, PhD (Kent), to be lecturer in electronics.
Research fellowship: J. R. Pullen, BSc (Kent): physics. M. K. S. Mak, MSc (Manitoba): chemistry. Ms G. F. White, BA (Natal), DPhil (Sussex): social psychology.

Grants
University Grants Committee: £27,000 to set up an applied statistics research unit with the school of mathematical studies to work on collaborative projects with industry for three years.
Medical Research Council: £25,[illegible] to Dr W. E. Gutteridge, senior lecturer in biology, for work on "Purine Salvage in Trypanosoma Cruzi".

Tables turned on international bridge masters

By Our Bridge Correspondent

The annual bridge pairs championship, restricted to the three senior grades in the English Bridge Union's master points rankings, took place in Birmingham last weekend.

In the top grade, for life and grand masters, last year's runners-up, B. Senior and S. J. Ray, turned the tables on the holders, the British internationals, J. M. Armstrong and G. T. Kirby, by the large margin of 140 points.

Results:
Life Masters: 1, B. Senior, S. J. Ray, 2,571; 2, J. M. Armstrong, G. T. Kirby, 2,431; 3, Dr and Mrs A. P. Sowter, 2,426; 4, A. M. G. Thompson, B. Schapiro, 2,377; 5, J. Sadler, A. Waterlow, 2,345; 6, J. Amsbury, L. Young, 2,321.
National Masters: 1, S. Norris, E. H. C. Powell, 1,897; 2, S. P. Haley, J. Lavis, 1,858; 3, P. Fountain, D. J. Betts, 1,855; 4, U. M. Dourmoush, A. Anidjar-Romain, 1,828; 5, P. Hepworth, J. A. Dutton, 1,79[illegible].
Regional Masters: 1, W. A. Pike, P. Bentley, 3,592; 2, Mrs C. J. Key, M. Vall, 3,[illegible]; 3, G. W. Jones, M. J. Elliott, 3,349; 4, M. H. Horton, D. M. Hamblin, 3,306; 5, Dr and Mrs F. P. Hiron, 3,292.

Carmel College

Sir Monty Finniston, FRS, has been appointed chairman of the Board of Governors of Carmel College.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev R. P. Appleton, vicar of Winchcombe with Gretton and Sudeley Manor, to be honorary canon of Gloucester Cathedral.
The Rev B. A. Blade, vicar of St Aidan's, Buttershaw, diocese of Bradford, to be rector of Elton with Helpston, diocese of Peterborough.
The Rev C. D. R. Boots, vicar of Westfield, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be priest-in-charge, Ilton and Isle Abbots and Hambridge with Earnshill and Isle Brewers, same diocese.
The Rev T. R. Christie, residentiary canon and chancellor of Peterborough Cathedral, to be examining chaplain to the Bishop of Peterborough.
The Rev F. R. Dexter, vicar of Christ the Carpenter, City, diocese of Peterborough, to be vicar of St Philip, High Elswick, diocese of Newcastle.
The Rev E. W. T. Dicken, warden of Lenton Hall and senior lecturer in theology, Nottingham University, to be rector of Maidwell with Draughton and Scaldwell and Lamport with Faxton, diocese of Peterborough.
The Rev G. F. Dowden, vicar of Holybourne, diocese of Winchester, to be rural dean of Alton (April 1).
The Rev R. K. Emm, curate of Yeovil team ministry, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be team vicar Grimsby St Mark's, diocese of Lincoln.
The Rev G. Featherstone, chaplain to the Missions to Seamen, Gravesend, diocese of Rochester, to be vicar of St Matthew, Upper Clapton, held in plurality with St Thomas, Clapton Common, diocese of London.
The Rev G. W. Farmer, curate in the Bedminster team ministry, diocese of Bristol, to be team vicar of St Mary's in the Langley team ministry, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev W. J. Fletcher-Campbell (formerly retired), to be rural dean of Abingdon, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev R. Greenslade, auxiliary priest, to be priest-in-charge of Tibberton with Taynton, diocese of Gloucester.
The Rev D. W. Grimwood, curate of Whorlton team ministry, diocese of Newcastle, to be team vicar in the Totton team ministry, diocese of Winchester.
The Rev M. Gutwein, curate of St Margaret, Toxteth, diocese of Liverpool, to be rector of St Paul's, Camden, New Jersey, United States.
The Rev D. C. Hancock, rector of Bramdean, diocese of Winchester, to be rural dean of Alresford (April 1).
The Rev D. N. Harley, honorary canon Winchester Cathedral, team rector of Basingstoke, diocese of Winchester, to be vicar of Eastleigh, same diocese.
The Rev D. Haslam, vicar of St Andrew's, Boscombe, diocese of Winchester, to be rural dean of Bournemouth (April 1).
The Rev K. F. Haydon, curate of St Thomas Wells, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be team vicar of St Saviour's, Weston-super-Mare, same diocese.
The Rev R. Jones, curate of Christchurch, Beckenham, diocese of Rochester, to be curate at Uphill, Weston-super-Mare, with special care of St Barnabas, diocese of Bath and Wells.
The Rev I. H. Kelly, vicar of St Wulstan, Selly Oak, diocese of Birmingham, to be rector of the United Benefice of Over Whitacre with Shustoke, same diocese.
The Rev W. H. C. Kingston, vicar of St Aidan's, Bamber Bridge, diocese of Blackburn, to be vicar of St Leonard, Padiham, and in charge of Hapton, Higham, Padiham Green and Simonstone, same diocese.
The Rev T. E. Leach, priest-in-charge of West Bessacarr Conventional District, diocese of Sheffield, to be vicar of St John the Evangelist, Goole, same diocese.
The Rev W. J. Lovegrove, rector of Tintinhull with Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil Marsh and Thorne Coffin, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Priest-in-charge of St Philip, Norbury, diocese of Canterbury.
The Rev D. J. T. Miller, curate of Abington, diocese of Peterborough, to be team vicar in the St Peter and St Andrew, Corby, with Great and Little Oakley team ministry, same diocese.
The Rev L. G. Mortimer, vicar of St James, Styvechale, diocese of Coventry, to be diocesan broadcasting officer in addition to his parochial responsibilities.
The Rev M. Oxbrow, curate Christ Church, Luton, diocese of Rochester, to be team vicar of St Hugh, in the Epiphany parish, diocese of Newcastle, and chaplain of St Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle.
Compiled by the Church Information Office, Church House, London, SW1.

Latest wills

Florence Marguerite Sherlock, of Tunbridge Wells, left £224,930 net. After personal bequests of £31,000, she left the residue equally between the Anglo-Italian Society for the Protection of Animals, the National Anti-Vivisection Society, the RSPCA, the International League for the Protection of Horses, and the PDSA.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid; tax not disclosed):
Dugard, Miss Mabel Helen, of Sutton Coldfield .. £175,464
Elliott, Mr William Kenwardley, of Scarborough .. £149,435
Gosling, Mr Bennet Herbert, of Bridgwater £177,152
Haworth, Mrs Florence Alice, of Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire .. £139,703
Hillyard, Mr Victor William Hugh, of Hampstead, London, dental surgeon £305,544
Hobbs, Mrs Iris St Clare, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne .. £164,253
Laverick, Mr William Hope, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, company director £150,242
McGinity, Lt-Cmdr Francis Henry, RN retd, of Kingsbridge, Devon .. £147,460
Parry, Mr Owen Henry, of Criccieth, Gwynedd £123,576
Prendergast, Mr John Xavier, of York, intestate £123,675
Williams, Mr Roland Bernard, of Cwmbran, Gwent .. £243,661
Wilson, Mrs Ellen Phyllis, of Newbury, Berkshire .. £278,387

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, March 4, 1955

M Cocteau elected

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 3.—M Jean Cocteau, poet, novelist, playwright, M Albert Buisson, perpetual secretary of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, and M Daniel-Rops, Roman Catholic historian and writer, were this afternoon elected members of the Academie Francaise. These elections were generally expected though with eleven candidates for three seats at least one stalemate had been feared. To be successful a candidate has to secure more than half the votes of the academicians present at the electoral session. M Cocteau swept in with great ease on the first ballot. Thirty academicians were present and he was given 17 votes against 11 for M Carcopino, writer on ancient history, and two blank voting papers. On being informed of his success (candidates are not present at the election), M Cocteau made a statement worthy of himself. He was not one of those, he said, who pretended to despise what they were seeking for fear of seeming too enthusiastic or naive; indifference, stand-offishness, irony, spitefulness are not, in my eyes, proof of intelligence and strength but of weakness and folly. The academy was, in France, the best survival of a world which a new world has not yet had the strength to replace.

Cricket

Century by Edgar should settle series

Auckland, March 3.—Bruce Edgar, New Zealand's opener, scored an unbeaten century on the third day of the third and final Test here today and left the West Indies with only a slender chance of drawing the series. Edgar made 126 not out, his second Test century, as New Zealand, leading 1—0 in the series, scored 239 for four in reply to the West Indies first innings of 220.

The West Indies relied on their four-pronged *fast bowling* attack to break through on a well-grassed and *watered pitch*, but the day belonged almost entirely to the New Zealand batsmen. Andy Roberts posed few problems and was *the most expensive* of the bowlers; Michael Holding was the most economical, conceding only 45 runs in 18 overs. Colin Croft, with three for 52, and Joel Garner, who bowled his first 14 overs for 12 runs and finished with one for 43, were the most successful.

Edgar, a left handed batsman, put New Zealand in a commanding position in an innings which has lasted just over seven hours. He resisted the temptation to play wildly at loose deliveries as *in previous efforts* and batted in gritty, determined mood.

He and his opening partner, John Wright, who made 23, laid *a solid foundation with a partner*ship of 75 before Wright fell to a slip catch by *Greenidge off* Croft. Edgar and Geoffrey Howarth, the New Zealand captain, consolidated with a second wicket stand of 96.

Howarth was uninhibited by the pace and movement the bowlers *extracted from the pitch and took* the initiative. He scored 47 before he *offered* a casual *shot* to the first ball after tea and gave Haynes an easy catch at *cover off* Croft. Croft had McEwan caught at the wicket and, when Garner dismissed John Parker, leg before wicket, New Zealand had lost three wickets for 15 and were 186 for four.

Edgar took half an hour to score the single needed to complete his century, but when the second new ball was taken he *opened out with several superbly*-driven boundaries. He and Coney checked the slump and by the close had added 53 in an unbroken fifth wicket stand, with Coney 21 not out. If New Zealand win or draw the Test they will clinch the *series. It will be only the second* time they have won a Test series, *their previous success* beating Pakistan 10 years ago.

WEST INDIES: *First Innings*, 220 (L. Rowe 50; R. Hadlee 4 for 75, G. Troup 4 for 71).

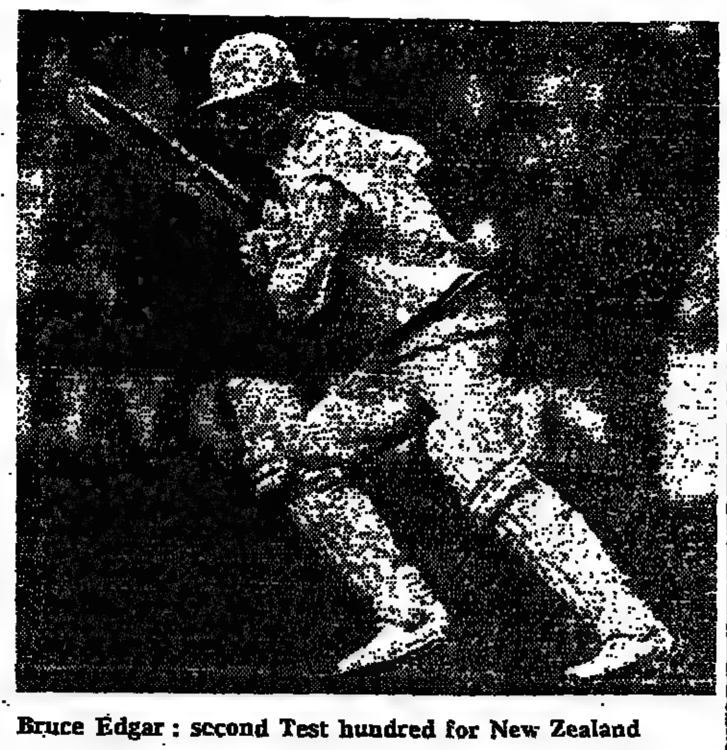
NEW ZEALAND: *First Innings*

J. G. Wright, c Greenidge, b Croft	23
B. A. Edgar, not out	126
*G. P. Howarth, c Haynes, b Croft	47
P. McEwan, c Murray, b Croft	5
J. M. Parker, l-b-w, b Garner	0
J. V. Coney, not out	21
Extras	17
Total (4 wkts)	239

†W. K. Lees, R. J. Hadlee, B. L. Cairns, G. B. Troup, S. L. Boock to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—75, 2—171, 3—186, 4—186.

BOWLING: A. M. Roberts, 18—4—81—0; M. A. Holding, 18—2—45—0; C. E. Croft, 25—6—52—3; J. Garner, 27—13—43—1; C. L. King, 2—1—1—0.—Reuter.



Bruce Edgar : second Test hundred for New Zealand

Imran faces a fitness test

Karachi, March 3.—The fast bowler, Imran Khan, will have to prove his fitness if he is to play for Pakistan against Australia in the second Test which begins at Faisalabad on Thursday.

Air Marshal Nur Khan, chairman of Pakistan's Cricket Control Board, confirming this today, said another opening bowler, Sikander Bakht, will be similarly tested. Imran strained a thigh muscle and could not field in the second innings of the opening Test. *Sikander has a pulled back muscle.* Both men say they are fit to play.

Pakistan, who won the first Test by seven wickets here, today named 17 players from which the XI will be chosen. Wasim Bari, replaced behind the wicket here by Taslim Arif, is among them.

PAKISTAN: Taslim Arif, Haroon Rashid, Zaheer Abbas, Javed Miandad (captain), Wasim Raja, Majid Khan, Mudassar Nazar, Imran Khan, Sarfraz Nawaz, Ehteshamuddin, Sikander Bakht, Iqbal Qasim, Tausif Ahmed, Sadiq Mohammad, Rizwanuz Zaman, Azmat Rana, Wasim Bari.—Reuter.

South Australia flying high

Brisbane, March 3.—South Australia's *six-wicket win over* Queensland here today means their match against Victoria, which begins in Adelaide on Friday, is in effect the final of the Sheffield Shield.

Resuming today at 121 for two and needing 92 more runs to win, South Australia lost Inverarity.

SCORES: Queensland 162 and 2[illegible]; South Australia 172 and 213 for four (J. Crowe 61 not out, J. Inverarity 53).—Reuter.

Rowing

Surprise Boat Race berth for Francis

By Jim Railton

Oxford University's boat club president, Boris Rankov, announced *his crew yesterday* for the Boat Race on April 5. Three of last year's *winning Blues sit* in the Oxford stern, with Diserens at stroke and Rankov and Mahoney in tandem in seats five and six.

Three freshmen are included—Edwards, Francis and Conington. Francis is the surprise choice having come into the Oxford boat only recently. Conington, who impressed stroking the winning trial eight, is placed at four. Oxford place their faith in last year's winning Boat Race stroke, Diserens, despite Conington's talent.

Oxford will be coxed by Mead, last year's Isis coxswain. Two of last year's losing Isis eight complete the *Oxford crew*—Barry (whose father rowed for Oxford *in 1946*) and Bland—*in bow seat.*

The Boat Race is sponsored for *the fourth successive year by* Ladbroke's, to the tune of £27,000, and they have made Oxford favourites, at 4-6, with Cambridge at 5-4.

Oxford and Cambridge encounters with London University over the last two weekends could be described as "rollerball on water". London usually give the Oxbridge crews a rough ride, with *frequent clashes of oars and* broken blades. Now Meager, the London coxswain, rivals a previous incumbent, Simon Jefferies, alias "the Kamikaze pilot".

This makes superb comic strip action. Indeed London regard Oxford and Cambridge not as light and dark blue "caped crusaders" *but more* "boy wonders", who receive far too much publicity for *an odd race.*

But London provide a form guide for the rather enigmatic blues as this stage of the season. In fact the only way to judge a crew is to see it in combat. After hours of training at Ely and Radley, what matters is how skill reacts to the release *of adrenalin against a tough* opponent on the Tideway.

Oxford had nine minutes of strife with London and Cambridge 15 minutes last weekend; and Oxford looked the better. Oxford came away from the Tideway as bruised victors two weeks ago; whereas Cambridge must surely have been depressed, although they met a stronger lineup than Oxford.

In three three-minute pieces, London University *came home* victors, 2—1, and on Sunday London *were superior* again. On Saturday, Cambridge gave the impression of setting off each time on a marathon plod. They seemed to lack aggression until London prodded them into life. This came in the second row when Meager, claiming loss of rudder control, began to squeeze his opponents. Cambridge could just not believe the first clash and played the role of "innocents abroad", but the second vicious clash was too much, and a controlled anger spread through*out the crew. For the first time* Cambridge found pace and converted a *one-third deficit* into almost a three-quarters of a length victory in just over a minute.

In the last piece, Meager was at it again, and it was clash, bang, wallop. Somehow Cambridge gave into the bullying and conceded one and three quarter lengths.

With five weeks to the Boat Race, there is much to be achieved by both crews. Cambridge have a potentially tough engine room powerhouse in Laurie, Palmer and Woodhouse; the stern pair of Dalrymple (stroke) and *Phillips have yet to blend.* I am surprised, too, that Woodhouse, the *president*, is not sitting in the stroke seat where he was impressive during training last year. Until Cambridge achieve the cohesion in their stern they will have a pronounced limp.

Delafield, the Cambridge coach, *now takes up the whip and needs* one to inject pace and aggression into Cambridge. Perhaps a couple of films such as *Rollerball* and the *Mean Machine* would help to "psych up" the Light Blues. Cambridge's next test may be against the national eight in two weeks time.

CAMBRIDGE: L. W. J. Baart (Shrewsbury and Caius), bow; M. F. Panter (Kingston and L.M.B.C.); T. W. Whitney (Dartmouth, US, and Jesus); J. W. Woodhouse (Shrewsbury and Selwyn); *J. S. Palmer (Eton and Pembroke); J. H. C. Laurie (Eton and Selwyn); *A. G. Phillips (City of London and Jesus); A. D. Dalrymple (Eton and Downing), stroke; C. J. Wigglesworth (Bryanston and Jesus), cox.

OXFORD: T. C. M. Barry (Radley and Oriel), bow; J. L. Bland (King Edward VI, Stafford and Merton); S. R. W. Francis (St Paul's and Corpus Christi); N. A. Conington (Hampton and Oriel); *N. B. Rankov (Bradford GS and Corpus Christi); *C. J. Mahoney (Hampton and Oriel); M. D. Andrews (Abingdon and Magdalen); *M. J. Diserens (Wallingford and Keble), stroke; J. S. Mead (St Edward's and St Edmund Hall), cox.

* A Blue

Show jumping

DORTMUND: 1. F. Sloothaak (W Germany), Rex The Robber, 30.2 secs; 2. D. Broome (GB), Sportsman, 38.6.

Boxing

Magri must wait before taking plunge

By Srikumar Sen

Boxing Correspondent

Charlie Magri, the British and European flyweight champion, who was to have stuck his toe in to test the temperature at the deep end has called off his bout with world-rated veteran, Alberto Morales, of Mexico, because he has a cold.

It was to have been an eliminator for the world title, whatever that might mean, since Magri is the official number one contender and Morales has dropped to seven in the world rankings. But in boxing, money can dance rings round logic until the only thing *that is eliminated in* the end is logic itself. But it *could have been an interesting* evening for the British boxer, for the Mexican knows a thing or two.

Magri developed a cold last week and though it appeared to *have cleared up*, it reappeared at the weekend, and it was decided on Monday night that he would not be fit to box at Wembley. This is the second blow suffered by this promotion. The original top of the bill was to have been a world light-middleweight title defence by Maurice *Hope, but Hope had to undergo* an emergency operation. John Feeney who meets Johnny Owen for the British bantamweight title in April comes down from Hartlepool as a substitute for Magri and faces the Mexican over *eight rounds.*

But there is still, on paper, a fine programme in store for the crowd. Tony Sibson, Britain's best young boxer, tries to move up in the world by taking on the Zambian champion, Chisanda Mutti, for the Commonwealth title and Lotte Mwale meets Jesse Burnett, who last year drew with John Conteh after flooring him twice.

Sibson, whose long trunks and flat-footed stance reminds me of one of those old time boxers on Staffordshire plates, is exciting to watch in action. He moves neatly and forcefully forward and his two-in-one hooks to the body and head are thrown with a rare precision, though they are perhaps a *little too studied. He likes a man* to take the fight to him and the *Zambian looks just such a man.*

Badminton

Stevens meets second seed in first round

By Richard Streeton

The draw for the £10,500 All-England badminton championships, sponsored by John Player, at Wembley from March 19-23, provided few favours for the home players when it was made yesterday. Ray Stevens, the English national champion, who was unfortunate not to be seeded, has to play Morten Frost Hansen, of Denmark, the No 2 seed, in the first round. Nick Yates, the rising 18-year-old Kent star, who has been included in England's team for the European championships in the Netherlands next month, meets Liem Swie King, Indonesia's defending champion.

Frost Hansen and Liem are *seeded to meet in the final. Frost* Hansen's recent form has estab*lished him* as the Dane in form and his compatriot, Flemming Delfs who holds the world title, is seeded in the 3-4 group with Prakash Padukone (India). Delfs originally was seeded in the 5-8 category with the relatively unknown Indonesian No 2, Louis Pongoh, seeded 3-4. Danish officials made a mild protest at Delf's lowly placing, pointing out that he had twice beaten Pongoh, and All-England officials amended their lists.

Stevens and Yates are not the only Englishmen with *hard* tasks in the first round. Kevin Jolly and Paul Whetnall meet Thomas Kihlström (Sweden) and Elie Sumirat (Indonesia), respectively, both of whom are seeded in the 5-8 group. Jolly, England's No 2, has the boost of a victory over Kihlström at Preston last week to *help him. Another Englishman,* Brian Wallwork, has drawn Padukone.

Gillian Gilks, England's leading hope in the women's singles, who is seeded 3-4, is in the same half of the draw as Lene Köppen, the Danish holder and world champion. Mrs Gilks has what looks to be a *fairly smooth passage* early on, starting against Karen Larsen *(Denmark)*. Karen Bridge, the second English girl seeded, who is in the 5-8 category, meets Pamela Hamilton (Scotland in the first round) and should progress to meet Yoshiko Yonekura, of Japan, in the last eight.

The various accounts surrounding Mrs Gilks's future in the game were *slightly clarified by* her coach, Michael Goodwin, at *the draw. Next season Mrs Gilks* is not expected to be available *for England teams but* she is hoping to play in major tournaments as an individual. Whether this is feasible remains to be seen. Under the International Badminton Federation's rules for open tournaments, entries have to be submitted by national bodies. The Badminton Association of England are unlikely to nominate Mrs Gilks for events if she is not willing to play for England.

At Bath tonight the finals of *the Laing grand prix circuit* take place with the main interest sur*rounding the two singles finals.* Stevens and Jolly meet in the *men's final with Jolly hoping* to end a run of eight successive *defeats by Stevens* this season. Jane Webster, last year's Laing champion, meets Mrs Perry for the women's title.

Men's singles

FIRST ROUND: LIEM SWIE KING (Indo) v N. Yates (E); D. R. Hunt (E) v Qualifier; T. Tsuji (J) v G. Helsholt (D); Ho Khim Soon (M) v Chung Tsung-Lieh (T); T. KIHLSTROM (Swe) v K. R. Jolly (E); P. Tryon (C) v Razif Sidek (M); H. Zwiebler (G) v Qualifier; J. Helledie (D) v Qualifier; F. DELFS (D) v P. Kong (A); O. Gallagher (Scot) v S. J. Baddeley (E); J. P. Neerhoff (D) v Misbun Sidek (M); U. Rost (G) v M. J. Wilks (E); L. PONGOH (Indo) v T. Sundberg (Swe); A. B. Goode (E) v P. Canault (I); Qualifier v Torben Nielson (D); Liu Han-Jia (T) v M. Tsuchida (J); S. Pri (D) v Qualifier; K. Zenuva (J) v T. Pettersson (Swe); M. P. Harry (A) v R. Ridder (N); P. E. Whetnall v L. SUMIRAT (Indo); W. Gilliland (Scot) v Y. Ono (J); M. Noergaard (D) v Hadiyanto (Indo); U. Johansson (Swe) v Saffan Abu Bakar (M); B. A. Wallwork (E) v P. PADUKONE (I); K. Larsen (D) v G. S. Asquith (E); G. J. Scott (E) v H. Hasegawa (J); B. Johnsson (Swe) v S. Modi (I); S. Fladberg (D) v SHANY SARTICA (Indo); Huang Chien-Tong (T) v Qualifier; P. Thoresen (NW) v Saw Swee Leong (M); Hastomo Arbi (Indo) v M. Schnasse (G); R. P. Stevens (E) v M. FROST HANSEN (D).

Women's singles

FIRST ROUND: BYES: MISS L. KOPPEN (D), Mrs. M. Schultz Jansen (G), Miss S. J. Leadbeater (E), Miss A. Tokuda (J), MISS IVANA (Indo), Miss K. Redhead (E), Mrs. M. Ridder (N), Mrs. W. Carter (C), MRS. G. M. GILKS (E) v Miss K. Larsen (D); Qualifier v Qualifier; Miss A. Chua (I) v Mrs. E. Stuart (Swe); Miss M. Takada (J) v Mrs. J. Youngberg (C); MISS S. KONDO (J) v Mrs C. M. Clark; Miss D. Simpson (E) v Miss Ghen Yuk-Jen (T); Mrs. D. Underwood (Ire) v Mrs. U. D. Kinard (US); Miss S. Born (D) v Qualifier; Miss H. Ikeda (J) v Miss J. Falardeau (C); Miss A. Borleson (Swe) v Miss J. Van Beuschom (N); Miss B. A. Hechal (Ire) v Miss P. Nielson (D); Miss P. Hamilton (Scot) v MISS K. S. BRIDGE (E); Miss P. Kilvington (E) v Miss Lin Shiew-Ying (T); Miss A. Juul (D) v Mrs. E. Weber (G); Miss A. Kulkarni (I) v Miss Toh Son Owan (Indo); Miss F. Thoresen (NW) v MISS Y. YONEKURA (J).

BYES: Mrs. A. Bostofte (D), Miss J. A. Webster (E), Miss C. Backhouse (C), MISS H. YUKI (J), Miss H. de Kort (N), Mrs. I. Morsch (G), Miss S. Skillings (C), MISS VERAWATY (Indo).

KEY: (A) Australia, (C) Canada, (D) Denmark, (E) England, (G) West Germany, (I) India, (Indo) Indonesia, (Ire) Ireland, (J) Japan, (M) Malaysia, (N) Netherlands, (NW) Norway, (Scot) Scotland, (Swe) Sweden, (T) Taiwan, (US) United States.

Racing

Plumpton programme

1.30 WALLANDS HURDLE (Div I : 4-y-o novices : £634 : 2m)

1	41212	Asmar (D), N. Henderson, 11-10	J. Nolan
3	0221	Groton (D), E. Price, 11-3	C. Gwilliam 4
4	000	Alistar Ashmoll, C. Benstead, 10-10	H. Davies

2.0 MOUNT HARRY CHASE (Handicap : Selling : £900 : 2m 3f 90yds)

2.30 DON BUTCHERS HURDLE (Handicap : £1,065 : 3m)

3.0 FLYAWAY CHASE (Hunters : Amateurs : £855 : 3m 1f)

3.30 WALLANDS HURDLE (Div II : 4-y-o novices : £627 : 2m)

4.0 KYBO CHASE (Handicap : £1,646 : 2m 3f 90yds)

4.30 MADHATTERS PRIVATE SWEEPSTAKES (2m flat)

Windsor results

Concert Hall performance leaves Lewis feeling flat

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

The Prince of Wales will have his first ride under the rules of racing at Plumpton today on Long Wharf in the Madhatters Private Sweepstakes. This is a flat race confined to *four-year-olds* and older horses which had not won a race of any *description* before January 1. In the meantime Long Wharf has won over hurdles at Sandown Park, so he at least is fit. And so is the Prince, who has been riding out regularly this year for both Long Wharf's trainer, Ian Balding, and Nick Gaselee.

Josh Gifford's wife, Althea, who won the corresponding race 12 months ago at Fontwell Park, will be on *Glamour Show* this time. He is trained by her husband. Glamour *Show and Shackleton's Flier* would appear to be the two that Long Wharf has to beat if the Prince is to realize an ambition at the first attempt. From the world of show jumping Lucinda Prior-Palmer and Richard Meade are other riders who are taking part.

Earlier in the day Broderick Munro-Wilson should win the Flyaway Challenge Cup riding his own 11-year-old, *Coolishall, who* should have most to fear from Sun Lion, a recent winner at Warwick. Whatever his luck with Sun Lion, Nicky Henderson should win the first division of the Wallands Novices Hurdle with Asmar, who was far from disgraced at Newbury last month when he was runner up to the Triumph Hurdle hope Hill of Slane.

Geoff *Lewis* hoped to win his first race as a trainer at Windsor yesterday with Concert Hall, but he was disappointed. Concert Hall had every chance but still could not cope with either Slitherum or Vagabond Victor. Bill Smith told me afterwards that he felt that Concert Hall would do better if he wore a pair of blinkers, so the likelihood is that he will be so adorned on the first day of the new flat racing season at Doncaster, where his fitness could be a key factor if his enthusiasm can be rekindled.

Yesterday Concert Hall's jumping left something to be desired. *In contrast Slitherum hurdles* like an old hand. The other division was won by Crown Pageant, who owed his victory to a superb display of horsemanship by John Francome, who sat tight when Crown Pageant made a mess of the last jump.

Roddy Armytage and Hywell Davies brought off a 33-1 steeplechasing double with Galileo and Princely Bid. Galileo is owned by Miss Susan Thomson, Princely Bid by her brother Sir John, so this was a memorable day for them, too. To see Princely Bid run and jump the way he did yesterday you would never believe that he broke his neck when he *got cast in his box six years ago.* Apparently he still carries his head askew when he is in his stable. Princely Bid is the last foal to run out of that influential mare, Leney Princess, whose produce have now won more than 50 races.

For much of the way Strathclyde looked like following up his recent victory at Newton Abbot with another in the Spring Handicap Hurdle. But just as his backers were poised to count their winnings Ordnance Hill burst out of *the pack to upset their* calculations. Ordnance Hill was one of two runners that Bryn Palling saddled for the race, the other being Princely Fool, who finished third. In his first season as a public trainer Palling had 11 winners last year, but this season his tally is only three because his horses have been laid low with the virus.

Diamond Edge cut

Ladbrokes *report support for the* Cheltenham Gold Cup favourite, Diamond Edge. Fulke Walwyn's charge is now 13-8 from 7-4. Border Incident has also been backed and is 7 to 1 from 8 to 1.

STATE OF GOING (official): Plumpton: Good. Warwick: Heavy. Kelso: Good to soft. Tomorrow: Worcester: Soft. Catterick Bridge: Good.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Julinstown, Sea Spray, Cleo's Asp, Midsummer Navy, Gay Kempley.

Three reasons to cherish a Winter's afternoon

By Michael Seely

Fred Winter enjoyed a triumphant afternoon at the *Leicestershire* Hunt's meeting yesterday. *The Lambourn trainer landed* a treble with Remigio, Shannon *Bridge* and *Royal Exile*. Jim Wilson rode the 103rd winner of his career when partnering Remigio to an effortless victory with Cheekio Ora in the Squire of Osbaldeston Hunters' Steeplechase. Oliver Sherwood was the successful jockey on both Shannon Bridge and Royal Exile. Sherwood, who *is Winter's assistant is now the* leading amateur with 19 successes *to his credit, five more than Tim* Thomson Jones.

Remigio had six wins from as many starts in this kind of race *last season*. The 12-year-old will now be aimed at the Christies Foxhunter's Steeplechase at Cheltenham next week provided that the going is not too soft. "I've also got Rolls Rambler in the Foxhunter's", Winter said, "But he would be unlikely to take on Remigio."

Shannon Bridge was equally impressive when strolling home seven *lengths clear of Spartella in the* Sturgess Hunters' Steeplechase. It would be hard to know which is the better, Remigio or Shannon Bridge. However, Shannon Bridge is not being sent to the Festival, as the eight-year-old's main target for the season is the final of the Land-Rover Championship at Cheltenham on April 30.

Winter's third winner was Royal Exile in the Meynell Amateur Riders' Handicap. Sherwood and the 11-8 favourite always had the situation well in hand, but Lucy King on Daygo showed to great advantage as she drove the Nottinghamshire trained gelding to finish within one and a half lengths of the winner. Royal Exile is owned by Walter Rigg, an 82-year-old naturalized American who lives in *California*. At the age of 11 Royal Exile is now just a useful handicapper. *But in his younger* days the American bred was a top French hurdler and was also placed in a French Grand National.

Despite the *absence of stars* Winter is having his usual mag*nificent* season and has now saddled 68 winners, more than any other trainer. The great man has slightly more encouraging news of Venture to Cognac his candidate for the Sun Alliance Chase. "Venture to Cognac has done plenty of swimming. He will canter on Thursday morning. And if he's sound after that he could still be ready for Cheltenham". Winter *concluded by saying that Snow*town Boy will be his Champion *Hurdle representative* if the ground is on top at Cheltenham. But if the going is heavy Norfolk Dance will do duty for the stable.

Never have there been so many horses with question marks hanging over them just before the big meeting. John Thorne said yesterday, "All the heat has gone out of Spartan Missile's leg. He has done plenty of swimming, trotting and cantering. And a gallop tomorrow morning will decide his future for the rest of the season.

There are three choices. In the first place he could be ready for Cheltenham where he could run in either the Foxhunters or the Gold Cup. If he needs more time the *eight-year-old could wait for* Aintree where his objectives could be *either the Foxhunters or the Grand* National. And finally, Spartan Missile may have to be roughed off and put away for the season. "It's such a shame," said his owner-rider, "I've never known the horse so full of life. He nearly pulled my arms out bounding up a bank yesterday morning."

At Kelso this afternoon Direct Line can defy a 4 lb penalty for a recent success at *Sedgefield* in the Morebattle Handicap Hurdle. *His trainer Arthur Stephenson is* running his Grand National hope Wagner, either at Stockton on Friday or at Ayr on Saturday. Wagner is now approaching his peak and that will be the gelding's final outing before Aintree.

Last year's National winner, Rubstic, will be on show at his local track. Rubstic too is running into form at the right time but at the weights the consistent Cashea may just have the edge. A third possible *winner on the* border course is Oisin.

Kelso programme

2.15 CRAILING HURDLE (*Div I : novices : £522 : 2m*)

1	300000	Tatora (D), W. Crawford, 7-11-0	
2	33224	Abercata, Mrs S. Chesmore, 6-11-4	
3	00	Angerton Annie, Mrs S. Hogg, 6-11-4	
4	00	Ascot Royale, J. S. Wilson, 6-11-4	
5	400-440	Burgundy Beau, Mrs D. Thomson, 6-11-4	

2.45 CESSFORD CHASE (Hunters : amateurs : £643 : 3m)

3.15 MOREBATTLE HURDLE (Handicap : £936 : 3m)

3.45 KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS CHASE (Handicap : £1,251 : 3m)

4.15 YETHOLM CHASE (Novices : £722 : 2m 195yd)

4.45 CRAILING HURDLE (Div II : novices : £526 : 2m)

* Doubtful runner

Warwick programme

2.0 EASTGATE CHASE (Handicap : Selling : £470 : 2½m)

2.30 WATERGALL HURDLE (Div I : Novices : £693 : 2m 5f)

3.0 CRUDWELL CUP CHASE (Handicap : £2,253 : 3m 4f 300yds)

3.30 NORTH WARWICKSHIRE CHASE (Hunters : Amateurs : £545 : 2½m)

4.0 SHREWLEY HURDLE (Handicap : £1,039 : 2m)

4.30 WATERGALL HURDLE (Div II : Novices : £682 : 2m 5f)

29	002	Morsina, Mrs N. Smith, 5-11-6	S. Smith
30	101p-0	Murray Partner, L. Norris, 5-11-6	C. Gray 4
31	0-0010	Penvale Member, Mrs E. Kennard, 5-11-6	M. Barrett 4
32	030	Poor Excuse, P. Calver, 5-11-6	P. Haynes
33	p0	Prince Ebony, D. Tucker, 7-11-6	R. Millman 7
36	04034	Seamark, A. Goodwill, 6-11-6	S. Smith Eccles
39	000f0	Tambeau, D. Nicholson, 6-11-6	J. Suthern
44	034f40	Woodlands Lad, J. Spearing, 5-11-6	Mr J. Pritchard 7
45	00	Emily Kent, G. Read, 4-10-7	M. Perrett 7
46	000	Grande Rosse, C. Stone, 4-10-7	J. King
48	0004	Miss Binki, R. Hollinshead, 4-10-7	J. Holt 4
49	00000	Prince Horitler, K. Bridgwater, 4-10-7	D. Crank

7-2 Seamark, 4-1 Morsina, 5-1 Eva Anne, 6-1 Ballin Connection, 8-1 Miss Binki & Poor Excuse, 10-1 Captains Log, 12-1 Lord Perrybard, 16-1 others.

* Doubtful runner

Warwick selections

By Michael Seely

2.0 Mr. Q. 2.30 Camp Hill. 3.0 French Garcon. 3.30 Family Man. 4.0 Jaffa Jack. 4.30 Morsina.

Plumpton selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

1.30 Asmar. *2.0 Old Smokey. 2.30 Toyco. 3.0 Coolishall.* 3.30 Egbert. 4.0 Laaken. 4.30 Long Wharf.

Kelso selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Abercata. 2.45 Snow River. 3.15 DIRECT LINE is specially recommended. 3.45 Cashea. 4.15 Green Dancer. 4.45 Oisin.

Leicester results

SPORT

Football

Bailey hopes to dispel the unhappy memories of past fortnight

Gary Bailey will turn his back on an unhappy fortnight when the England and Scotland under-21 teams meet at Aberdeen tonight to decide who goes through to the semi-final round of the European championship.

Bailey was at fault with the Scottish goal when England recorded a 2—1 victory in the first leg at Coventry two weeks ago and on Saturday he let in six playing for Manchester United against Ipswich Town.

Bailey, the 21-year-old son of Roy Bailey, a former Ipswich goalkeeper, said: "No good goalkeeper lets a bad result get him down. Yes I did drop a clanger in the first leg and I didn't enjoy letting six at Ipswich. But I did not feel that my place was *in jeopardy*. Before Saturday Manchester United had the best defensive record in all four divisions. We had only let in three goals at Old Trafford."

Bailey and England will be watching Alan Brazil closely. He put two goals past Bailey on Saturday.

Dave Sexton makes just two changes in the England team from the second leg. Cyrille Regis and Kevin Reeves are recalled after dropping out of the first game through injury. That means there is no place for Vince Hilaire (Crystal Palace), who will be substitute; Graham Rix is unavailable because of Arsenal's European commitments.

England are confident they will create chances. Mr Sexton said: "In the first leg Scotland concentrated on shutting us out. Now they have to attack and we are well equipped, with three strikers, to make use of the spaces they leave at the back."

England will hope for a slice of Hoddle's midfield expertise and shooting power to take them into the last four. Hoddle was a subdued figure for much of the first leg but since then has produced such stunning form that the Tottenham Hotspur manager, Keith Burkinshaw, has likened him to Pele. Two FA Cup goals against Birmingham City, a treble against Coventry, and another goal against Leeds United on Saturday have been signs of a player at the peak of his game.

It will prove a stern test against a determined, well-organized Scotland side lifted by an expected 20,000 Pittodrie crowd. The Scots overcame the blow of an early goal at Coventry with a disciplined performance and their manager, Jock Stein, says they still have room for a substantial *improvement. He has remodelled the centre of his defence.*

Gary Gillespie (Coventry) and Neil Orr (Morton) have been dropped, to give Jim McNicholl, from third division Brentford, his first international cap, and make room for Mark Fulton (St Mirren).

SCOTLAND: B. Thomson (St Mirren), A. Dawson (Rangers), M. Fulton (St Mirren), A. Stewart (West Ham), J. McNichol (Brentford), A. McLeish (Aberdeen), E. Bannon (Dundee Utd), J. Wark (Ipswich), S. Archibald (Aberdeen), A. Brazil (Ipswich), J. Melrose (Partick Thistle). Substitutes: Gardner (Dundee Utd), Gillespie (Coventry), Orr (Morton), Richardson (St Mirren), Redford [illegible].

ENGLAND: G. Bailey (Manchester United); V. Wright (Everton), R. Osman (Ipswich Town), T. Butcher (Ipswich), K. Sansom (Crystal Palace), G. Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur), G. Owen (West Bromwich Albion), B. Robson (West Bromwich Albion), G. Crooks (Stoke City), C. Regis (West Bromwich Albion), K. Reeves (Norwich). Substitutes: C. Woods (Queen's Park Rangers), A. Burbishley (Birmingham City), V. Hilaire (Crystal Palace), W. Gilbert (Crystal Palace), S. Elliott (Sunderland).

Irish party: Terry Donovan of Aston Villa, who was omitted from the Republic of Ireland party for the European Nation Cup tie against England at Wembley last month, has been recalled for the World Cup match against Cyprus in Nicosia on March 26. There are two omissions: Paddy Mulligan (Shamrock Rovers) who is injured, and Ray O'Brien (Notts County).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: G. Peyton (Fulham), R. Healey (Cardiff), C. Hughton (Tottenham Hotspur), G. Daly (Derby County), J. Murphy (Crystal Palace), J. Devine (Arsenal), D. O'Leary (Arsenal), M. Lawrenson (Brighton), A. Grimes (Manchester United), L. Brady (Arsenal), F. Stapleton (Arsenal), P. O'Leary (Shamrock Rovers), P. McGee (Preston), D. Givens (Birmingham), G. Ryan (Brighton), A. Grealish (Luton), S. Heighway (Liverpool), K. O'Brien (Philadelphia Furies), T. Dnovan (Aston Villa).

When Clough admitted he was all talk

Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, admitted yesterday that he faced an uphill struggle to lift his players for tomorrow night's European Cup quarter-final first leg home match against the East Germans, Dynamo Berlin. Speaking of Saturday's 1—0 defeat at Bolton, Mr Clough said: "It was not the ideal preparation, particularly coming on top of recent results and we have got a job to build up confidence again for the game on Wednesday."

Mr Clough had his players in for a talk on Sunday. He added: "We will find out in the European match whether it sorted anything out. We did a lot more talking than training." The Forest manager will not choose a team until tomorrow morning, but Gunn is certain to come in for the suspended Anderson at right back.

Dynamo were boosted by a 9—1 win in the East German league at the weekend. The East Berliners' nine goals included four from Pelka but, no less significantly, Riediger, back after a long injury, was also among the scorers. The win left them one place and two points behind the league leaders, Dresden.

Rice, the Arsenal captain, is very doubtful for the first leg of the European Cup Winners Cup quarter-final tie against Göteborg at Highbury tomorrow. Rice, who missed Saturday's win at Stoke because of an ankle injury, did some light training yesterday, but Terry Neill, the manager, said: "His chances of playing are very poor. He will report for training tomorrow when we expect to make a decision. We have no other injury problems."

Real Madrid, the Spanish champions, are expected to fly a 16-man party to Glasgow today for their European Cup quarter-final first-leg match against Celtic tomorrow. Real, joint leaders of the Spanish first division, are likely to be without their captain, the experienced Martinez.

"It will be pretty difficult for me to play in Glasgow", Martinez told reporters after being substituted because of a leg injury in Real's Saturday league match against Betis. If Martinez does not make the party, his sweeper role could be filled by Real's midfield star, the West German, Stielike.

France alone have survivors in all three European competitions, the Cup Winners Cup, Uefa Cup and the European Cup.

Their European Cup aspirants, Racing Strasbourg, play host to Ajax, whose 2—1 win at Utrecht leaves them five points clear at the head of the Dutch league. Strasbourg shared two goals at home to Marseilles at the weekend and have dropped to the middle of the French league table.

West Germany have five clubs into the last eight of the Uefa Cup, but in the Champions Cup their hopes rest on Hamburg, again reinforced by their English import, Keegan.

Rossi on list of players said to have taken bribes

Rome, March 3.—The Italian daily newspaper, *Corriere Dello Sport* today named 27 professional *players accused by two unidentified* bookmakers of taking bribes to lose matches. The players, spread over 12 first and second division clubs, were alleged to have taken bribes or placed bets themselves. The players assert their total innocence of the allegations.

According to front-page accounts, the list included two players in the national team, Paolo Rossi and Bruno Giordano, the two top scorers in the current championship. If proven true, the players would be banned from the game for life.

Rossi, the Perugia striker, denied any involvement. Another leading player named, the Milan goalkeeper Enrico Albertosi, told a reporter, "I'm clean". A lawyer for the Italian Soccer Federation was to question two players from the Lazio team in Rome in a long-standing appointment following rumours of the betting scandal.

In a statement, the President of the Federation of Italian Soccer Players, Sergio Campana, said no proof against the players has been presented and until such a time, "the players and teams in the accusations have the sacrosanct right of being considered innocent".—Reuter and AP.

Blackpool's new long distance manager

Alan Ball, the new Blackpool manager, will be back training at the Dell as a Southampton player today. After dealing with paperwork in his Bloomfield Road office yesterday Ball said: "The directors and I knew this situation would arise when I came here. I hope to get a couple of days in Blackpool each week but Southampton are still paying my wages as a player so I will be there for training and expect to be playing on Saturday. I can only appeal to the Blackpool fans to be patient".

Roger van Gool, FC Cologne's Belgian international winger, trained with the Coventry players yesterday morning and has a medical examination later with a view to signing for the Midland club. The Coventry manager, Gordon Milne, who agreed a fee of £250,000 with Cologne, said that Gool may make his first appearance in the derby match against West Bromwich Albion on Saturday.

Bobby Shinton, the Manchester City striker, has turned down a move to Burnley after the clubs had agreed a £200,000 fee. Shinton is expected to return to Manchester when his month's loan period with Millwall ends after Saturday's home game against Sheffield United.

Leeds United agreed to transfer David Harvey, their Scottish international goalkeeper, to North American League champions Vancouver Whitecaps for £40,000 yesterday. Harvey, who is 32, has been at Leeds for 17 years, but lost his place this season to 19-year-old John Lukic.

Today's fixtures

UNDER 21 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-final round—second leg: Scotland v England (at Aberdeen, 7.30).

SECOND DIVISION: Oldham v Burnley (7.30); Swansea v Luton (7.30).

THIRD DIVISION: Barnsley v Rotherham (7.30); Bury v Carlisle (7.30); Gillingham v Hull City (7.30); Millwall v Swindon (7.30).

FOURTH DIVISION: Darlington v Lincoln (7.30); Halifax v Northampton (7.30); Scunthorpe v Crewe (7.15); Tranmere v Walsall (7.30).

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Albion Rovers v East Stirling (7.30); Alloa v Meadowbank (7.30); Cowdenbeath v Stenhousemuir (7.30); Queen of the South v Queen's Park (7.30).

WELSH FA CUP: Fifth round: Wrexham v Newport (7.30); Merthyr Tydfil v Chester (7.15).

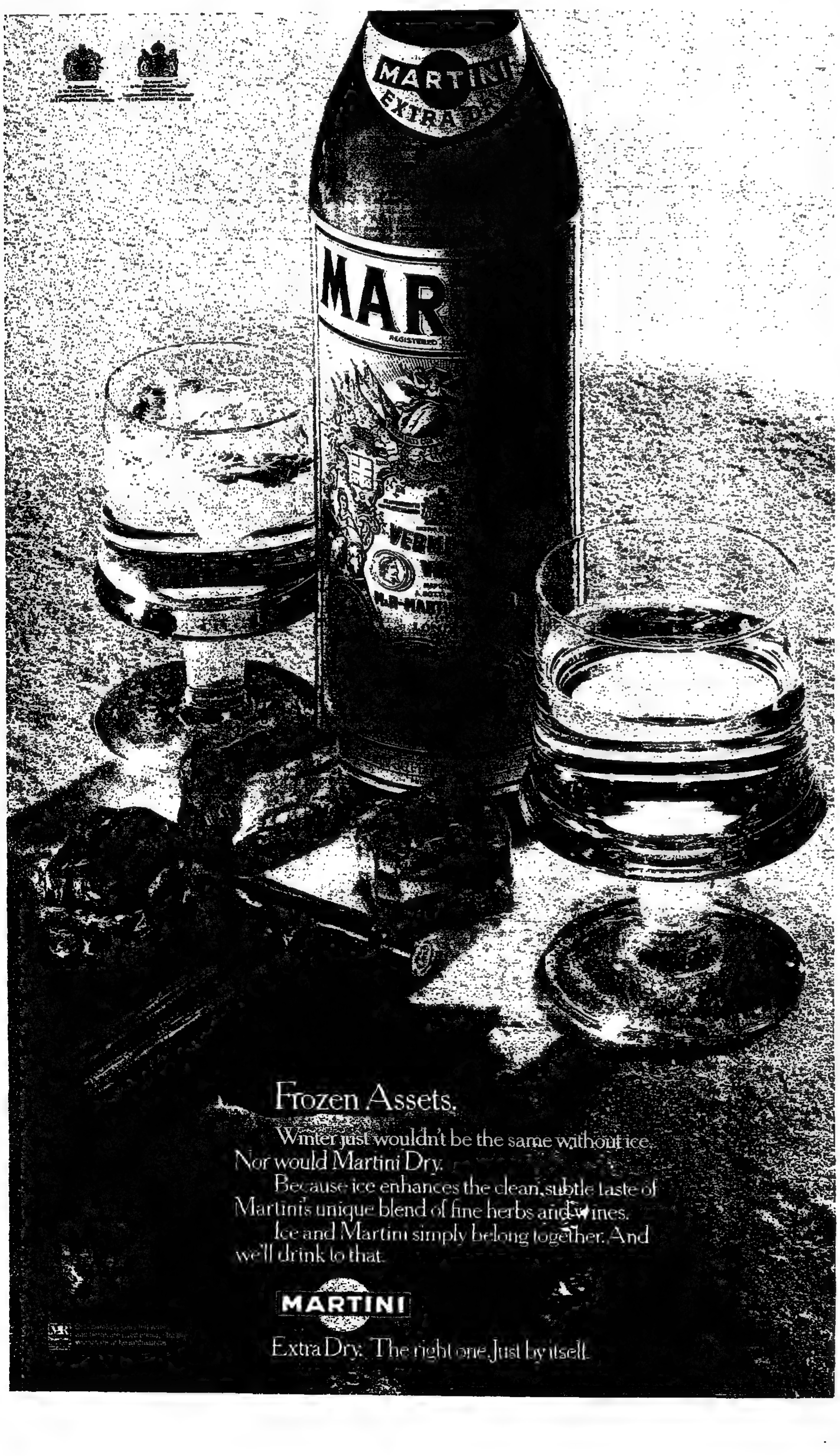
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Nuneaton v Bath (7.30); Redditch v Worcester (7.30); Barrow v Northwich Victoria (7.30).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gainsborough v Burton Albion (7.30); Goole v Oswestry (7.30); Morecambe v Frickley (7.30); Netherfield v Southport (7.30); Runcorn v Lancaster (7.30); Witton Albion v Tamworth (7.30).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE (7.30): Premier division: Barking v Walthamstow Avenue; Carshalton v Slough; Staines v Wycombe Wanderers; Tooting and Mitcham v Hayes. First division, Metropolitan Police v Maidenhead.

RUGBY UNION: Cardiff v San Isidro (Argentina, 7.15); Newport v Ebbw Vale (7.15); Nottingham v RAF (7.15); Penarth v Newbridge (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: St Helens v York (7.30).



Golf

Eichelberger survives cold for victory

Orlando, Florida, March 3.—Dave Eichelberger held on, despite high winds and bitterly cold weather yesterday to win the Bay Hill classic by three strokes from Leonard Thompson.

—Eichelberger returned a three-over-par 74 for a 72-hole total of 279, five under par for the 7,102-yard course. The victory was the 36-year-old Texan's third in 14 years on the United States PGA tour. Thompson was the only other player under par for the tournament. He also returned a 74 and finished on 282.

Dan Pohl and Jim Colbert tied for third place on 288 while David Graham (Australia), Lanny Wadkins and Bill Calfee were grouped together in fifth place on 289.

Eichelberger suffered a double bogey at the third hole and also bogeyed the 14th and 18th but he holed long putts at the ninth and 17 for birdies. Winds gusted *up to 45 miles an hour, lowering* the temperature to —12 centigrade by early afternoon.

LEADING SCORES (US unless stated): 279: D. Eichelberger, 69, 66, 70, 74. 282: L. Thompson, 66, 72, 70, 74. 288: J. Colbert, 67, 71, 73, 77; D. Pohl, 64, 72, 74, 78. 289: D. Graham (Australia), 74, 68, 72, 75; W. Calfee, 72, 71, 68, 78; L. Wadkins, 70, 72, 71, 76. 290: R. Floyd, 69, 71, 73, 77; C. Stadler, 74, 71, 71, 74; F. Zoeller, 66, 69, 78, 77. 291: C. Peete, 77, 67, 70, 77. 292: H. Green, 71, 73, 71, 77; B. Crenshaw, 70, 75, 71, 76; L. Nelson, 77, 68, 70, 77; R. Nichols, 74, 70, 70, 78; M. Barber, 67, 70, 77, 78. Other foreign scores: 298: G. Player (SA), 72, 75, 73, 78. 307: M. Ozaki (Japan), 72, 71, 80, 84.—Reuter.

Squash rackets

Hunt trying to step into Hashim's shoes

Geoff Hunt, of Australia, tries to equal the record of seven title successes in the Avis British open squash rackets championship, which starts at Wembley today. Hunt, the world champion, is clear-cut favourite, and if successful, will emulate the feat of Pakistan's Hashim Khan, and go one better than Britain's Jonah Barrington.

In this, the fiftieth anniversary of the championship, the sponsors have increased the prize money to almost £16,000, with the winner taking £2,750. An added attraction to a glittering competition is that after two rounds, it moves to a special see-through court erected on the platform of Wembley Conference Centre.

But Hunt, 33 on semi-final day, will not find his path to a record equalling seventh win an easy one. The Pakistan players will be there in force, attempting to protect Hashim's record, and Hiddayat Jahan, the world ranked No 4, is *one who quietly fancies his* chances. He said: "I always play my best at Wembley and this will be the most important British Open of them all. We want to stop Hunt winning the title again and will be trying our best to show that he is beatable".

Jon Leslie, of Beaconsfield, winner of the British amateur title last month, can provide the first upset. He meets Ali Aziz, of Egypt, in the first round but Leslie, who may be considering retirement, has the current form to beat the world No. 16.

Tennis

Mrs King halts a series of 28 victories

Houston, March 3.—Billie Jean King *enjoyed a surprisingly easy* 6—1, 6—3 victory yesterday over the world's leading woman player, Martina Navratilova, in the finals *of the professional tournament* here. Mrs King, aged 36, ended the reigning Wimbledon champion's string of 28 match victories.

Miss Navratilova had also won four consecutive events at Houston on the women's professional tour and went into the match with 54 victories in her last 57 sets of tennis. Two of the sets she had lost during that run were to Mrs King in the semi-finals at Chicago, earlier this year.

But it all ended quickly yesterday in a match lasting 50 minutes. Mrs King broke Miss Navratilova in the first and third games of the opening set, and again in the seventh game when she won a set with a low shot at Miss Navratilova's feet. The victory gave Mrs King a 6—5 advantage in matches *during her career.*

GERULAITIS OUT: Tony Trabert, the United States Davis Cup captain, announced six players for his party to play Argentina in the American zone final in Buenos Aires on March 7-9. They are John *McEnroe, Peter Fleming,* Brian Gottfried, Gene Mayer, Bruce Manson and Scott Davis. Vitas Gerulaitis, who played in the North American zone final last week, was ruled out because of a wrist injury.—AP and Agence France-Presse.

Rugby Union

Dutch and Italian teams for schools festival

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

There are nine new entries for this year's All England Schools rugby festival, which will be staged by the Preston Grasshoppers club for three days, beginning on March 30, and sponsored by Wilkinson Sword. Two of these are representative sides from the Netherlands and Italy; the others are Chislehurst and Sidcup GS, Fettes College, King's School (Tynemouth), Llandovery College, Duke's School (Alnwick), Sale CGS and Sevenoaks School.

The first tournament in 1979—the only one of its kind (for 15-a-side) to be held in Britain—was so successful that the club has decided to adhere to a format providing for an entry of 28 schools. This means that almost as many who applied to enter have been disappointed.

The Grasshoppers' chairman, Richard Eastwood, said yesterday at the Rugby Club in London that the 1980 entry had been determined on a "first come, first selected" basis. "We would have liked everyone to have taken part," he added, "but we were not prepared to compromise on a format which provides for a playing time of 15 minutes each way, and for every side having at least two days of rugby". The teams are organized in four pools, the top two from each of them going through to a quarter-final round and a knockout competition from that stage.

The organizer of the event is Dick Greenwood, a former England *rugby captain, coach of the Grasshoppers* and a master at Stonyhurst College. He has been able to arrange for all participants—about 400, including coaches and reserves—to board at the college for three nights. The club will be producing a minimum of 1,200 meals a day and hot water facilities in tents specially erected adjacent to their four playing fields.

The Wilkinson Trophy for the winning side has been shared since last year when De La Salle, Salford, and Christ's College, Brecon, were unable to play the final because of appalling weather.

Absence approved: Gerald Williams, the Bridgend and Wales B scrum half, who is employed by the South Wales Police authority as a plumber, will be able to tour South Africa with the British Lions if selected. But Williams, aged 24, will not be paid for the time he is away. By 15 votes to 14 the police authority, at their quarterly meeting in Bridgend yesterday, agreed to grant him leave of absence.

Borzov bows out

Moscow, March 3.—The Soviet sprinter, Valery Borzov, a double gold medal winner at the 1972 Munich Olympics, has given up hopes of a comeback at this year's Games in Moscow. According to the Soviet press agency Novosti, Borzov, aged 30, has now definitely retired from top-class athletics.

Rugby League

Grayshon and Gorley exchange roles

By Keith Macklin

Demotion from the playing XIII to the substitute role is hardly a 100 per cent vote of confidence, but Peter Gorley, the St Helens second row forward will surely feel that half a loaf is better than no bread as he retains his place in the England party to play France in the European *championship decider at Narbonne* on March 16.

Eric Ashton, the England coach, was happy enough with his team's performance in beating Wales 26—9 last Friday, but has decided that the substitute Bradford Northern forward, Jeff Grayshon, will start the game on this occasion, changing places with Gorley.

The Great Britain selectors are looking for guidelines for the winter visit of New Zealand, and in particular to the internationals *against Australia in 1982.* Consequently they are not anxious to make changes for the sake of it, and Friday's England team played fluently in patches to give promise for the future.

In tonight's league game at St Helens, the home club introduce their latest signing, Steve Bayliss, of Ystradgynlais, who has deputized on the Neath wing for Elgan Rees.

ENGLAND PARTY: G. Fairbairn (Wigan), S. Wright (Widnes), J. Joyner (Castleford), M. Smith (Hull KR), D. Drummond (Leigh), S. Evans (Featherstone Rovers), N. Holding (St Helens), [illegible] (Hull KR), D. Ward (Leeds, captain), K. Rayne (Wakefield Trinity), L. Casey (Hull KR), J. Grayshon (Bradford Northern), H. Pinner (St Helens). Substitutes: J. Woods (Leigh), P. Gorley (St Helens). Reserve to travel: [illegible] (St Helens).

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Philadelphia 76ers 144, Golden State Warriors 96; Atlanta Hawks 100, Denver Nuggets 95; Boston Celtics 118, Detroit Pistons 115; New Jersey Nets 115, New York Knicks 96; Portland Trail Blazers 110, Chicago Bulls 107; Cleveland Cavaliers 125, San Antonio Spurs 119; Phoenix Suns 127, Los Angeles Lakers 115; Washington Bullets 118, Indiana Pacers 101; Kansas City Kings 91, Houston Rockets 91; Seattle Supersonics 107, Utah Jazz 91; Milwaukee Bucks 101, San Diego Clippers 98.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders 0, Pittsburgh Penguins 0; Chicago Black Hawks 5, Winnipeg Jets 2; New York Rangers 2, Boston Bruins 1; Montreal Canadiens [illegible], Philadelphia Flyers 3; Colorado Rockies [illegible], Washington Capitals 1; Los Angeles Kings 1, Quebec Nordiques [illegible]; Toronto Maple Leafs 6, Detroit Red Wings 5; Buffalo Sabres 2, Minnesota North Stars 2.

Golf

SUN CITY, Arizona: Women's tournament (US unless stated): 275: J. Stephenson (Australia), 69, 71, 67, 71. 276: M. Smith (NZ), 70, 72, [illegible]. 277: B. Lauer, [illegible], 71, [illegible]. 278: A. Alcott, 71, [illegible]. 280: S. Palmer, [illegible], 71, 70; [illegible] Hayes, 71, 71, 68, 70. [illegible]: B. Barrow, 70, 75, 67, 71. [illegible]: S. Gerring, 69, 70, 73, 71; L. Baugh-Craft, [illegible]. 284: J. Britz, 71, 71, 68, 74. 285: D. Young, 73, 70, 72, 70; N. Lopez, 77, 72, 70, 70; M. Floyd, 72, 72, 70, 71; K. Whitworth, 69, 73, 70, 73. British score: 286: Lee Smith, 74, 69, 72, 71.

Tennis

MEMPHIS: United States national indoor championships, final: J. McEnroe (US) beat J. Connors (US) 7—5, 7—6. Doubles final: J. McEnroe and B. Gottfried (US) beat [illegible] (Australia) and [illegible] (Czechoslovakia), 6—7, 6—7, 7—6.

MAR DEL PLATA: B. Borg (Sweden) beat G. Vilas (Argentina), 6—1, 6—3, 6—4.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth L (cm)	Depth U (cm)	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Crans Montana	70	230	Good	Crust	Fair	Fine	5
Some ice on south slopes							
Flaine	105	575	Icy	Varied	Good	Fine	-3
Slush on lower south-facing slope							
Kitzbuhel	10	110	Good	Powder	Fair	Cloud	2
Powder on good base							
Les Arcs	135	235	Good	Varied	Good	Fair	5
Ice patches on piste							
Souze d'Oulx	25	90	Fair	Varied	Worn	Fine	6
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Serre Chevalier	40	160	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	3
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Verbier	80	220	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	5
Bare patches on lower slopes							
Wengen	30	125	Good	Varied	Fair	Fog	0
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Wildschonau	20	150	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-4
New snow on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
FRANCE					
Chamonix	25	120	—	—	—
Courchevel	70	[illegible]	Good	—	—
Isola 2000	150	[illegible]	Good	—	—
La Clusaz	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—
Les Arcs	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—
Les Contamines	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—
Les Menuires	60	[illegible]	Good	—	—
Megève	10	150	—	—	—
Méribel	50	[illegible]	Good	—	—
Montgenèvre	130	170	Good	—	—
Morzine	10	[illegible]	Good	—	—
St Gervais	60	200	—	—	—
Tignes	140	200	Good	—	—
ITALY					
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good	Var'd	—
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ice	Fair	—
[illegible]	50	70	Good	Fair	—
[illegible]	10	250	Good	Var'd	—
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good	Fair	—
[illegible]	10	[illegible]	Ice	Fair	—
[illegible]	60	120	Good	Fine	—
[illegible]	50	110	Good	Fair	—
[illegible]	80	[illegible]	Good	Fine	—
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Good	Fine	—
[illegible]	60	300	Good	Fair	—
[illegible]	30	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fair	—
Madonna di C	50	220	Good	Var'd	—
[illegible]	70	[illegible]	Fair	Var'd	—
San Martino	60	130	Good	Good	—
Selva	80	175	Good	Var'd	—
Sestriere	30	90	Ice	Fine	—
[illegible]	10	100	Good	Var'd	—
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	30	120	Hard	Good	[illegible]
Arosa	120	150	Hard	Good	[illegible]
Braunwald	100	160	Hard	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	130	Pwdr	Good	1
Chateau d'Oex	20	100	Spring	Good	[illegible]
Davos	60	220	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	150	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
Engelberg	20	150	Hard	Good	0
Grindelwald	20	120	Spring	Good	0
[illegible]	50	200	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	10	160	Hard	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	200	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
Lenk	20	130	Spring	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	100	150	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
Les Diablerets	30	150	Spring	Good	[illegible]
Leysin	30	150	Hard	Good	[illegible]
Murren	20	100	Spring	Good	[illegible]
Pontresina	50	150	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
Saas-Fee	110	250	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
St Cergue	10	70	Spring	Good	[illegible]
St Moritz	70	130	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
[illegible]	20	120	Pwdr	Good	[illegible]
Villars	60	100	Hard	Good	[illegible]

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

■ **Stock markets**
FT Index 463.5, down 3.6
FT Gilts 64.80, down 0.15

■ **Sterling**
$2.2420, down 3.1 cents
Index 72.6, down 0.6

■ **Dollar**
Index 86.6, unchanged

■ **Gold**
$637.5, down $3

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 18¾-18½
3 mth Euro $ 17-17¼
6 mth Euro $ 17½-17¼

IN BRIEF

Meccano workers served with writs

Nineteen workers who have taken part in the sit-in at the Meccano toy works have been ordered to appear before a High Court judge in London.

A member of the parent company Airfix's management, a solicitor and a policeman delivered the summonses to the Edge Hill, Liverpool, factory last night.

Some were pinned to the door and others pushed through the letterbox", said Mr John Lynch, secretary of the joint shop stewards' committee.

But for the moment, he said, the sit-in would continue. The men still hoped a buyer could be found.

Fisons profits fall

Fisons, the agricultural chemicals and fertilizer group, had a difficult year in 1979 with pre-tax profits dropping a quarter to £17.3m. Industrial disputes, bad weather and the strength of sterling are blamed for lost profits of £7.5m.

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Anti-dumping rumours

Rumours are widespread in Washington of an impending anti-dumping suit being filed by US Steel and possibly other steel companies. The companies refused to comment.

Giants play politics, page 19

Rates curb sought

Avon Rubber Co, which employs about 5,000 employees at its factories at Melksham, Bradford on Avon, Trowbridge, Chippenham and Westbury, is making a last-minute attempt to halt a proposed 22 per cent County rates rise, which will endanger jobs, the company claims. Letters have been sent to the 88 county councillors who meet today.

Blouse quotas imposed

Import quotas have been imposed on Indonesian blouses by the EEC Commission, after representations fro Britain. Only 150,000 blouses can be imported during 1980 compared with 248,000 last year.

Weighted naphtha price

Five large petrochemical companies, including ICI, are paying a weighted average of $366.98 a tonne for contract naphtha, the industry's basic feedstock, during the present quarter, accordin gto the new reporting system introduced to reduce fluctuations in price. Trading totalled 1,453 million tonnes. Spot prices are about $350 a tonne.

Fishermen reassured

Assurances that jobs will still be available despite the collapse of the Hull Fishing Vessel Owners Association have been given to 1,100 fishermen by the owners of the port's 27 freezer trawlers. The Humber Freezer Trawler Owners Co has been formed to administer the crewing of the Hull-based ships.

Solomon successor

Mr William Miller, the United States Treasury Secretary says Mr Robert Carswell, the Deputy Secretary will oversee the office of the Undersecretary for Monetary Affairs until a successor to Mr Anthony M. Solomon is appointed. Mr Solomon resigned to become president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Pound drops three cents as higher American interest rates boost dollar demand

By Caroline Atkinson

Sterling plummeted against the dollar on hectic foreign exchange markets yesterday. The pound dropped late in London, losing more than 3 cents against the dollar. It closed at $2.2420 in London, but weakened further overnight in New York.

Against a basket of currencies, the pound lost 0.6 points on its trade-weighted index to close at 72.6 per cent of its end-1971 value. Dealers believe that the opening rate on this measure today could be lower.

The pound was started on its downward spiral by large selling orders from Chicago, according to some dealers. Other sterling holders who have been attracted into London by recent high British interest rates seem to have decided to sell some of their pounds yesterday and get into what are now high-earning dollars. The dollar soared against all major European currencies too on the back of higher interest rates.

Indeed the Deutsche mark, rather than the pound, was in the centre of things during most of the day yesterday. Massive intervention by the West German Federal Bank was thought to have taken place. Some dealers put the total amount of dollars sold by the German central bank yesterday at about $500m. Despite this the Deutsche mark lost ground against the dollar, slipping from DM1.7765 to DM1.7835, its lowest level since last November.

The Japanese and Swiss central banks were also in the markets trying to bolster their currencies against the dollar. The yen did strengthen in the wake of Sunday's announcement of a new yen support package. Dealers believed that the Japanese had stepped up the level of official dollar sales and were being helped by American sales of dollars for yen. But there is some doubt about whether Sunday's measures will be enough to hold up the yen in the coming weeks. There was some feeling in the market that the package was not as substantial as had been expected.

A further rise in Japanese interest rates is widely thought to be necessary to keep up the yen, and to attract enough money into Tokyo to cover the large and growing payments deficit.

The Swiss national bank was thought to have been helping the yen yesterday, as well as supporting their own currencies. One of the points in the yen support measures was that West Germany, Switzerland and the United States should act in concert to help the yen if it was severely threatened.

The Swiss franc fell against the dollar in London, dropping from Swiss F1.7020 on Friday to Swiss F1.7155 at yesterday's close. There was a fair amount of selling but pressure was not as heavy as on the Deutsche mark.

Sterling held up remarkably well in the morning in the face of the dollar's general strength. However it slipped sharply and suddenly after the American markets opened. Some dealers thought that a lot of the pressure on the pound came from the Chicago commodities market, and could be reversed later this week. But others wondered whether recent international support for the pound, despite Britain's high inflation and large balance of payments deficit, might be evaporating.

The Germans and Swiss are both now seriously worried about rising inflation in the wake of increased oil prices and are anxious to avoid the inflationary impact of a falling exchange rate.

The present turmoil of the world's currency markets is the mirror image of 1978 when the dollar was under pressure. Now the usually strong currencies—the yen, Deutsche mark and Swiss franc—are weak and speculators are hurrying to put their money into dollars.

If American interest rates go up still further this week demand for dollars could increase. The Germans may make another move in the international interest rate war, and push up their rates again.

The British Government still appears keen to avoid a rise in minimum lending rate and will probably prefer to see a small slide in the pound's value as American rates climb towards British levels.

Port of London to close docks after failure to reach agreement on restrictive practices

By Michael Baily

The Port of London Authority under Mr Victor Paige, its new chairman, yesterday took the decision to close the India and Millwall Dock after "failure by port workers" to move faster on elimination of restrictive practices.

The 400-acre dock will be closed as soon as possible, the PLA said. Its 500,000 tons of cargo will be transferred to the Royal Docks and Tilbury, and 500 workers made redundant.

There was no immediate reaction from the unions yesterday but the PLA said that with requests for voluntary redundancy substantially exceeding the limit so far authorized, it did not expect great difficulty in shedding the necessary manpower. The London Dock Labour Board meets next Monday to examine the position.

Closure of the India and Millwall should save about £4m in a full year but this will still leave the PLA in a parlous position. With £12m losses in each of the last two years it has only £9m left to draw on; £4m of the £25m "Lazard loans", and £5m overdraft if the Government agrees to underwrite it. That, Mr Norman Fowler, the Transport Minister, told parliament, was the PLA's absolute cash limit

After substantial manpower and productivity gains over the past two years, important concessions were reached last autumn by rival groups on double manning, ancient agreements covering shed and quay working.

The PLA said last month that unless faster progress was made it would have to abandon the agreed target of keeping both upper docks open. Since then, far from an improvement, there had been a strike over pay costing £2m and the situation had got worse, a PLA spokesman said last night.

With a £4m loss already this year, it has been hit by the effects of the steel strike, the poor state of the economy, one pay settlement above budget, and several more still to be reached.

Some important operations in the India and Millwall—Montague Meyer timber, Rank Hovis McDougall flour, and the bulk wine terminal—will continue, but most of the dock will eventually be disposed of.

A PLA statement said it was "very disappointed that plans to retain cargo handling in both of its upper docks had had to be abandoned". Everything possible would be done to minimize the effects on customers and staff.

Mr Clive Thornton: giving confidence to construction industry.

£250m boost for private homes starts

By John Huxley

Abbey National is to set aside £250m in mortgage finance for potential buyers and make it available to housebuilders this year, in an attempt to stimulate the private homes sector.

The move, announced yesterday, reflects the building society's concern at the falling number of new homes in the private sector started in 1980.

Last year, starts totalled fewer than 140,000, and it is not expected that the number will increase this year. According to industry estimates, accepted by the Abbey National, about 200,000 starts are needed.

Mr Clive Thornton, chief general manager, explained that the £250m allocation, which is far larger than anything previously offered to the housebuilding industry, should give confidence to builders. The move is designed as a "psychological boost" to the industry. In the past, builders have been deterred by fears that potential buyers would be unable to obtain mortgage finance or experience long delays.

Meanwhile Mr Leonard Williams, chairman of the Building Societies Association, yesterday raised the possibility that societies might offer some kind of interest rate protection to first-time buyers for a limited period of, say, one or two years.

He conceded that people who had bought homes two or three years ago, when the mortgage rate stood at 8½ per cent, had been hard hit by increases.

They had seen their net repayments rise by 60 per cent, he told a meeting in Cardiff. Some societies had been able to help already by adopting a system whereby repayments remained unchanged for 12 months.

Clearing banks preparing defence against excess profits accusation

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

Clearing bankers are bracing themselves for a political row and are reacting sharply to suggestions that they are making excessive profits. They had previously informed the Government that profits for last year would appear very high and that this could cause an outcry.

Mr Angus Maude, the Paymaster General has warned the Cabinet in a memorandum of the problems looming and suggested ways ministers could answer embarrassing questions over banking profits. Over the weekend Mr Eldon Griffith, MP for Bury St Edmunds, fired the first salvo in what he intends to be a running parliamentary battle and has called for a tax on excess profits.

Yesterday spokesmen for various banks were reacting warily to attacks on their business. A spokesman for Barclays said that "our profits represent the sort of returns business ought to make but other people's poor performance highlights our good results. One ought to think of the need for proper returns on capital and the cyclical nature of banking profits".

Mr Denis Child, general manager of National Westminster Bank, sees the problem as one of presentation. He says that the "level of earnings in 1979 requires communication by the banks of their long term needs, notably the need to maintain a strong capital base. On a current cost accounting basis, nearly half of the profits are needed to maintain the banks' capital ratios". Last week, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank had already dismissed the suggestion of a tax on profits as "inappropriate and nonsensical".

Anticipating problems ahead, Lloyds and National Westminster, the two clearers which have reported their results for 1979, have also presented a set of profits figures adjusted for inflation. Lloyds, which reported a 49 per cent rise in profits to £276.6m also showed that adjusted for inflation profits would have been up by £100m, a 28 per cent rise.

Similarly, Mr Child pointed out that out of the 44 per cent rise to £441.5m profits, National Westminster needed £189m to maintain its capital ratios. Barclays and Midland, which are reporting later this month, are also expected to produce a set of results adjusted to inflation.

The major problem for the banks is that the trend of their results is against the general run. When the economy goes into a recession, interest rates go up and money gets tighter. But there is a time lag during which the economy continues to grow and interest rates remain high.

It is this which produce the banks' bumper profits. They pick up the bill later in the shape of mounting bad debts and higher costs

Yesterday Mr Griffith remained adamant that he would pursue his campaign in and out of Parliament.

White House demands cutback in spending from all departments

From Frank Vogl
United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, March 3

The Carter administration hopes to complete a full-scale budget review by March 17. No decision has yet been taken by the White House on calling for credit controls, though there is widespread fear of such controls on Wall Street, where tighter money policies are seen as certain and where a 17 per cent prime rate is expected to be set this week.

Mr Bowman Cuter, an associate director of the Office of Management and Budget, told the Ways and Means Committee of Congress today that all government departments and agencies had been requested to submit plans for spending cuts within two weeks. There are rumours that this has caused substantial administration in-fighting, and this was partly confirmed by Mr Cutter's comment: "Our instructions have rocked the departments and agencies."

The White House has become alarmed by reports that increasing numbers of businessmen believe wage and price controls are in th offing and that, as a result thty are increasing prices in anticipation of controls. At the weekend, 500 American companies received telegrams from Mr William Miller, Secretary of the Treasury, stressing that wage and price controls would not be imposed.

Financial institutions are lobbying to try to ensure that credit controls are not imposed. Citibank took large advertisements in major newspapers today declaring that controls would not work.

Bankers on Wall Street noted that the easiest type of controls to impose were on consumer finance, but these would hit hardest at the car and housing industries, which were already severely depressed. There was a danger that such controls would stimulate business borrowing in the Euromarkets, raising the question of foreign exchange controls.

The latest money supply data, reflecting large gains in commercial and industrial loans over the past six weeks, must be causing concern at the Federal Reserve Board. Actions by the Fed in the markets do not suggest that it is willing to change its present stance and, as a result, rates are generally moving higher.

The 16¾ per cent commercial prime rate has become well established across the nation, but a 17 per cent rate is virtually taken for granted, and there is a great deal of talk in the markets of the rate hitting 18 per cent before long.

There is also talk of another discount rate rise from the current 13 per cent level, to bring this rate more into line with the current market rate structure and to underline the Fed's determination to reduce money stock growth.

Pressure on rates: In the United Kingdom there was further upward pressure on interest rates in the money markets, John Whitmore writes. With substantial sums of money drained out of the system as the oil companies met payments of petroleum revenue tax, overnight money rates touched 20 per cent before easing back to close at 17 per cent. The banks were also worried at the rise in the one-week rate to 18¾ per cent, opening up the possibility for prime borrowers to draw down overdraft facilities and relend the funds at a worthwhile turn.

Unless rates ease again over the next few days, the Bank of England will probably have to consider what else it can do to reduce pressures in the market, particularly presures on bank base rates.

The authorities will presumably be watching the foreign exchange markets very carefully too. Any fresh selling pressure on Sterling could pose a considerable dilemma. Normally the authorities would intervene to iron out fluctuations in the rate, but substantial intervention under present circumstances would only serve to drain the system of yet more liquidity.

That might be good for the money supply figures but it would also tend to increase pressure on short term domestic interest rates.

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Shell hopes for extra Saudi crude

By Nicholas Hirst,
Energy Correspondent

Shell could be the first company to benefit from new contracts for crude oil supplies from Saudi Arabia, according to the influential *Middle East Economic Survey*. The journal reports that Saudi Arabia plans to offer crude to companies which invest in half shares of refining and petrochemical plants.

Foreign investors will be granted a crude supply according to a formula related to the size of the stake invested, the report says.

Shell International is negotiating on partnership deal for a 250,000 barrels a day export refinery at Jubail and Shell Oil of the United States is building a 650,000 tonne ethylene-based petrochemical complex. It could therefore be one of the first beneficiaries.

The Arabian American oil consortium of Texaco, Socal, Exxon and Mobil take the greater part of the nation's 9.5 million barrels a day production. It may be however that Saudi Arabia will take positive steps to cut this back, or it may offer only part of the supply handled by Petromin, its own state company. Saudi Arabia is expected to reduce its production by one million barrels a day later this year anyway.

In Paris, the International Energy Agency is planning the third dry run of its system of oil sharing to be used in an emergency shortage. Computer simulations of what would happen if the system were triggered by a seven per cent shortfall in oil supplies to a member of the 20-nation group will take place in October or November, with representatives of governments and oil companies planning the moves over several weeks. It will be the most elaborate test of the system so far attempted.

Conoco, the American group which is operator for a consortium drilling on a licence about 35 miles north-west of Den Helder, off the Netherlands coastline, has found oil at between 250 and 2,650 barrels a day. More wells are to be drilled.

Insac acquires US software company

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

Insac Products, the National Enterprise Board subsidiary set up to promote the development and export of British computer software, has acquired Altergo Software Inc (ASI) of Boston, Massachusetts.

Announcing this yesterday, Insac said that the acquisition would give the company "an ideal base in the vital United States market for software products, by providing an established and highly reputed distribution channel which has considerable expertise in marketing system software products for IBM hardware".

ASI is the North American marketing arm of the United Kingdom-based Altergo group, which has developed a number of successful computer programmes. Insac added: "The acquisition is a significant step in Insac's progress towards its goal of becoming a major software exporting company. It will enable Insac to market appropriate member products in addition to the Altergo Software Ltd (ASL) product range."

This last sentence is significant because it marks the beginning of a new phase of Insac operations—the marketing of non-members' products as well as those of the member-companies in which the NEB has a shareholding.

Two other Insac developments are now underway, triggered by recent doubts about the relationships between the parent Insac and the individual member-companies. Previously each member-company had a representative on the Insac board.

Now the Insac board is being reshaped to include Insac representatives, NEB representatives, and non-executive directors—but no representatives of the member-companies. The member-companies will appoint liaison officers to Insac who will discuss operational matters.

No figure has been given for the price paid by Insac

Titanium plant go-ahead

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Planning approval has been secured for the £30m titanium granule plant at Shotton on Deeside, in which the National Enterprise Board has played a formative role.

Approval has been given by the Alyn and Deeside Council, and the way is now clear for the NEB to detach itself from the partnership with Rolls-Royce and IMI by securing participation from a third party private sector company to take over the board's stake.

The plant, which is due to be in production by 1982, will have a capacity of 5,000 tonnes a year. Shotton is being heavily hit by the rundown of the British Steel Corporation's iron and steelmaking there as part of the corporation's retrenchment programme.

MPs urge action on 'unfair' textile imports

By John Huxley

Drastic action by the Government to protect the British clothing and textile industries from "unfair and fraudulent" competition from overseas has been demanded by MPs.

Members of the two all-party parliamentary groups for the wool textiles and cotton and allied industries have written to Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, saying that urgent action is needed to ensure the survival of the sector at a viable level.

The groups say that 12,000 jobs, 4 per cent of the workforce, have been shed by the clothing industry in the past five months. If this trend is allowed to continue the consequences will be enormous, they say. About one million workers in upstream industries, producing textiles, are dependent on the clothing industry.

According to the MPs, led by Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative member for Macclesfield, and Mr Ben Ford, Labour member for Bradford North, the main problem arises from low-cost imports, which are taking an ever-increasing share of the British market.

It is alleged that there has been an alarming growth in the various forms of fraud, dumping and other unfair trading practices. Mr Nott has been urged to cut back quotas from what are described as the "super competitive suppliers" like Hongkong, South Korea, Taiwan and the Comecon countries.

Trade ministers have so far resisted pressure for such action. They say that the package of import controls, associated with the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, is being rigorously policed. They have also promised to investigate and act upon evidence of unfair trading practices.

But Mr Nott and his colleagues have made it clear to the industry that it cannot expect to be shielded from competition, much of which comes from developed, rather than developing countries.

The latest official statistics show a marked deterioration in the trade balance of the textiles and clothing industries. Imports of clothing during the first nine months of last year, for example, were 33 per cent up on the previous year. Those from South Korea rose by 40 per cent and from Hongkong by 24 per cent.

For textile yarns and fabrics, the crude trade deficit increased substantially to £280m in the first nine months—higher than in the whole of 1978.

Imports from the United States, against which the European Commission recently approved curbs, rose by 55 per cent, reflecting the weakness of the dollar and lower energy and feedstock prices for man-made fibres.

A textile industry review published today by Philips & Drew, brokers, suggests that by the latter part of 1980 the worst may be over. Lower interest rates, an easing of the destocking movement and the possibility of sterling's weakness or import protection would help. But the main impact will come from the substantial reorganization and cost-cutting programmes now in progress.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Assam Inv	6p to 128p	Newmark L.	15p to 330p
Blackwood Mt	1p to 18p	Polly Peck	2p to 22p
Brown Shipley	7p to 294p	Rand Mine Prop	10p to 290p
Furness Withy	8p to 391p	Sangers	3p to 66p
Milford Docks	5p to 140p	Shell Trans	10p to 406p

Falls

Barlow Rand	9p to 458p	Lesney Gpd	2p to 27p
Carr'ton Viy	4½p to 11½p	Midland	23p to 338p
Ferranti	8p to 504p	Ningate Explor	10p to 480p
Fogarty E.	11p to 73p	Tace	3p to 24p
Housten A.	7p to 100p	Utd Scientific	8p to 457p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.12	2.05
Austria Sch	29.90	28.40
Belgium Fr	69.50	66.00
Canada $	2.64	2.57
Denmark Kr	12.99	12.44
Finland Mk	8.90	8.50
France Fr	9.75	9.35
Germany DM	4.22	4.00
Greece Dr	91.00	86.00
Hongkong $	11.60	11.00
Ireland Pt	1.13	1.09
Italy Lr	1940.00	1850.00
Japan Yn	587.00	562.00
Netherlands Gld	4.63	4.40
Norway Kr	11.55	11.05
Portugal Esc	111.50	105.50
South Africa Rd	1.91	1.78
Spain Pta	156.00	149.00
Sweden Kr	9.88	9.43
Switzerland Fr	4.07	3.85
USA $	2.31	2.35
Yugoslavia Dnr	54.50	50.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

American soft drinks capitalism breaks into a 1,000 million market

Things go better with Chinese Coca-Cola

Any visitor who has bought a bottle of Coca-Cola on the Great Wall of China knows that it is labelled in Chinese characters with the nearest phonetic equivalent to that world famous trade name. But some capitalist things just don't translate. The literal meaning of Coke to 1,000 million Chinese, possessors of a quarter of the world's palates, is "can drink, can happy".

But displaying that marketing flair which propelled him to the top of his company, Mr J. Paul Austin, Coca-Cola's chairman, happily paraphrases this as "delicious and refreshing".

It is now a little over 12 months since the £300,000 a year Mr Austin announced the return of Coke to the Chinese mainland after a 30-year exile. Since then, the Americans have been shipping over small quantities in cans and bottles. But in Peking the ground has been broken on the site of what will become, before the end of this year, the first Coke bottling plant in the People's Republic.

Mr Austin is obviously pleased, the more so because he has at last capped the 1974 coup of Coke's bitter rival, Pepsico. That year it announced an exclusive deal with the Soviet Union. Given that for years mere mentions of the name pepsi was forbidden in Coca-Cola's Atlanta headquarters, one can only imagine how that success rankled.

But Pepsi's Russian operation is and will for some time remain much larger. It already has five plants operating, including one in Moscow and another five are planned. Each will produce roughly three million cases a year, a case being 24 8oz bottles, which means Pepsi will soon be supplying 72 million bottles. Or rather it will provide the concentrate—the Russians build the plant and fill the bottles themselves.

Against this, Coke's Peking operation is small beer, if that is the right expression. Going flat out, it will supply only two million cases—barely enough to keep a city the size of Leeds thirst-free, to say nothing of 1,000 million Chinese. So for some time supplies will be restricted to tourist spots and hard currency shops. The average Chinese with a monthly salary of barely £20 will be able to see the advertisement hoardings. But that is as close as he will get to the real thing.

In spite of the small scale of the operation so far, the irony of these two bastions of capitalism slugging it out in the Communist block has not been lost on the American public.

Nor has it been overlooked that Coke's chairman enjoys a similar cosy relationship with President Jimmy Carter.

But Mr Austin insists that the White House played no direct part in the deal and that it is unfair to both Carter and Coke to suggest it did. The Chinese, characteristically, have not said a word.

Anthony Hilton

Inflation in EEC up by 2 per cent

Inflation in the European Economic Community increased 2 per cent in January, the steepest one-month rise since the organization was formed in 1958, the EEC statistical office said in Luxembourg.

Prices in the year to January rose 13.4 per cent and the EEC price index, base 1975, was a provisional 156 in January compared with 153 in December and 137.6 in January 1979.

Rises varied widely among member states with Italy highest at 3 per cent and Britain at 2.5 per cent while West Germany, the Netherlands and Luxembourg registered just 0.5 per cent.

S African prices up

South Africa's consumer price index rose to 165.4 in January, up from 164.0 in December 1979 and 145.3 in January 1979, (base year 1975). The increase in the 12 months to January 1980 was 13.8 per cent.

Citröens cost more

Automobiles Citröen of Paris has announced price increases on all its models averaging 3.8 per cent, effective immediately. Citröen last increased its prices by about 3.5 per cent on December 3.

Soviet oil for Poland

Polish imports of Soviet oil will reach 16 million tons this year. This includes about three million tons of oil products. *These imports, provided by a* contract signed in Warsaw, will cover 80 per cent of Poland's present needs.

Public sector surplus

*Singapore has achieved a pre-*liminary $Singapore268m (more than £54m) public sector (government plus statutory boards) surplus in 1979 after a $Singapore454m deficit in 1978.

Montedison plant

Montedison's new plant in Ferrara, Italy, for high yield catalysts for plastics has a capacity to meet output of one million tonnes of polypropylene a year. *The chemical group has* developed the plant with Mitsui Petrochemical of Japan.

£1,000m industry will be affected by trend towards natural materials

Difficult time facing furniture makers

Britain's contract furnishing industry, now worth £1,000m a year in sales, is facing a difficult three years, according *to a survey* published today.*

This overall picture masks a boom for some manufacturers, partly because of a swing in taste towards the use of natural materials like wood and partly because of increased demand in the leisure market represented by hotels, pubs, clubs, restaurants and theatres.

The survey, prepared for the British Contract Furnishing Association (BCFA) by the Furniture Industry Research Association (FIRA), foresees little real increase in the market as a whole, with a recession most likely to occur in metal furniture and carpets.

Metal furniture and that made from plastic materials has been suffering from the swing to the use of natural materials. The size of the metal furniture market is rapidly declining to the levels of 1973, worth £41m after adjusting for inflation, the report says.

The survey shows how contract carpeting has been hit, like the rest of the carpet industry, by cheap imports while the real value of the market has declined. Value of this sector is put at £135m last year, only an 11.5 per cent increase over the previous year and so considerably below the rate of inflation. Imports in this sector are growing at 28 per cent a year and exports have shown a decline of some 5 per cent, says the survey.

Adverse trends on both imports and exports of non-domestic furniture are identified in the report. It was a reasonably healthy picture for British manufacturers in 1978, with exports running at £93m and imports at £33m. But last year saw a 30 per cent rise in imports, with exports declining to £88m worth. The cause was a combination of sterling's strength and increased competition from abroad.

Contract furniture manufacturers also lag behind the furniture industry as a whole in terms of financial performance, according to the survey. Profit margins were about half those in the total industry and return on capital employed was only one third of that of the whole industry. Contract furniture makers also tended to give longer periods of credit—85 days compared with an average 58—and stock was turned over only five times a year compared with seven times for the rest of the industry.

But companies point out that comparisons, particularly on profit margins, can be misleading because of the traditionally high profits on domestic furniture, where gross margins of up to 80 per cent have not been uncommon.

Among growth areas indentified in the survey is wooden and upholstered contract furniture, where a 3 per cent volume growth is forecast for this year and next.

Dimock Furniture, makers of period wooden furniture, based near Stourbridge, has increased workshop space by a third to cope with demand. G. H. Keen of High Wycombe is another furniture and furnishings company which has benefited from the trend, its 37 per cent increase in turnover in the past year amounting to a real increase, net of inflation, of some 16 per cent. Mr Peter Keen, managing director, sees an upturn in demand continuing for some years because of a cycle of refurbishing which has developed in hotels.

His is an example of companies that are benefiting from having a design service to cope with the "one off" project. The survey also identifies as a key growth area the trend for large establishments, like hotel or restaurant chains, to direct their furnishing needs to the shopfitter type of operation which can tackle individual developments profitably. Specialized design is an important ingredient, says the survey. Growth rate in this specialized furniture market is put by the survey at 15 per cent a year, with no evidence so far of its subsiding.

**The Contract Furnishing Market*. British Contract Furniture Association, 73 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0DU (£95 to non-members).

Derek Harris

Leyland launches new range of heavy trucks

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Vehicles, the truck and bus arm of BL, today launches its most important new truck for more than a decade. Called Roadtrain, it will operate up to 40 tonnes gross vehicle weight and is the *basis* of an entire range planned for the next four years.

Mr David Abell, chairman and managing director of LV, is hoping that Roadtrain will halt the steady erosion of the home market by *importers led by* Volvo, the Swedish group. In the past seven years Leyland's share has fallen from 30 per cent to 17.5 per cent.

Mr Abell is also hoping that Roadtrain's arrival after 18 months of speculation will boost the image of Leyland Vehicles, which has taken a battering from the overall problems of BL and more particularly from the crisis-ridden cars side.

Roadtrain aimed at the most profitable sector, the over-28 tonne "premium" articulated truck market where Volvo, Scania, Mercedes, Iveco, Seddon Atkinson (International Harvester), ERF, and others are all *offering more modern designs* at competitive prices.

Last year this sector accounted for more than 11 per cent of total United Kingdom truck sales. Leyland's share of the 9,000 sold was a depressing 600.

Mr Abell is gambling that Roadtrain with its aerodynamically shaped cab, reducing wind *drag by 30 per cent*, and a more economical engine, will hold the line until further new designs can be brought in.

Quoted retail prices mean little in the truck business. Every sale is a "one-off" deal loaded with *discounts* and *other* attractions. But at £24,995 Roadtrain is carefully priced below the £26,000 quoted for a Volvo F10 to give Leyland dealers a starting edge.

Cab design and driver acceptability have become increasingly important in clinching sales. Leyland's new C40 cab replaces six existing cabs. It will eventually be used throughout the new truck family stretching from 6.5 tonnes to 65 tonnes.

The key to its hoped-for success is the wide use of common components with each derivative using at least 80 of the 125 tooled components. The Design Council yesterday timely awarded the cab one of its awards.

Initial production of Roadtrain will be aimed at the domestic market. But Mr Abell emphasizes that within 18 months it will also be going on to the Continent in volume.

Roadtrain is being built in a new £31m assembly plant at Leyland, Lancashire, part of a £360m investment programme which is about half completed. *The plant has capacity to pro-*duce 250 Roadtrains an dother derivatives weekly.

Increased use likely of eco-communications

Large companies increasingly will adopt distributed computing systems based on "eco-communications"—in-house wide-band communications installations—according to Professor Maurice Wilkes of the Computer *Laboratory, University of Cambridge.*

Speaking in London yesterday at an Infotech conference on the "fifth generation" of computers, Professor Wilkes said that, though single minicomputers were attractive for small businesses, a proliferation of free-standing minicomputers was not advisable for the larger organization.

As an alternative to the monolithic central mainframe computer, the idea of a group of interconnected minicomputers sharing the peripherals between them was attractive. This depended on a system of eco-communications.

"Much effort is being devoted to the development of wideband local-area communication systems", Professor Wilkes reported. "This subject is a new one, developed by computer people. It owes little to traditional telecommunications technology."

The speed of these systems was measured in megabits (millions of binary digits) a second, that is, intermediate between *the (slower) traditional tele*communications system and the (faster) internal computer bus.

Technology News

"*Experimental systems exist* in which the computers to which the users are connected have no peripherals attached to them except, perhaps, a cartridge disc or a floppy disc. Access to other peripherals is obtained via "servers" (eg for files, hard copy, names, time and messages) connected to the communications system."

Such systems would in the 1980s quite possibly come to be *sold* in much the same way that mainframe computers were sold today. "They will offer the customer much greater flexibility, both in the original choice of a system and in the extension and enhancement of it as his needs develop."

Undersea divers get 'black box'

A "black box" recording system similar to those used in aircraft has been designed by British Hovercraft Corporation's experimental and electronic laboratories for use by undersea divers. Information recorded by the system will also be monitored by the diving supervisor on the accompanying *surface vessel.*

Essentially the system allows two divers to operate outside a diving bell at a depth of 1,600 ft, each able to transmit 15 channels of data via a multiplexer from a backpack to the bell. Readings from within the bell are multiplexed with those from the divers and transmitted via cable to the surface, where they can be recorded on magnetic tape for monitoring and later analysis.

At present, the system monitors voice communication, *breathing rate and body temperature.* This last factor is critical; too low a temperature can commonly lead to hypothermia. Careful monitoring of the diver's condition can prevent hypothermia or scalding. Further measurements can include diver/bell depths, gas temperature and partial pressure of oxygen and carbon dioxide.

The BHC divers' recorder has completed initial tests. Further tests, incorporating changes to the equipment suggested by a number of commercial companies, will be conducted soon in the cold depths of the North Sea.

New system to pinpoint ships

Accurate offshore positioning of ships is aided by a new system which has been devel-*oped by Decca Survey. Annaun*ced yesterday at the Oceanology International exhibition in Brighton, the system is known as the Trispoder 540 digital distance measuring unit.

It is a microprocessor-based device which can control communication from a central point on a river or sea to 80 remote points. At any one time, any four of those 80 can be interrogated and their ranges displayed on the visual display unit o fthe instrument.

Each range is corrected automatically for the height of the remote station and for known errors established during calibration. The system is designed to establish a specific position on the surface of the water, and consists of a battery-operated central controller and an attendant aerial. Each remote tation has a receiver, decoder, transmitter and battery.

The unit can interrogate four remote stations every 0.5sec. The central controller can simulate a complete functional test without having to communicate with the remote stations.

Range of the unit is from 100 metres to 80 kilometres when operating on a line-of-sight basis. The equipment will be manufactured in Houston, Texas, and marketed to the operators of surveying and dredging vessels around the world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why AGR nuclear power system is safer and less costly

From Professor G. Ronald Bainbridge and others

Sir, The report of *Sir Alan Cottrell's* evidence to a House of Commons select committee (*The Times, February 21*) on the comparative safety of the British-designed advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) and the American-designed pressurized water reactor (PWR) makes an important point. Sir Alan noted that any sudden loss of coolant from a PWR could result in operators only having a couple of minutes to make the correct decision. It could be less, depending on the size of the pressure circuit fracture.

American and West German safety studies concluded that if a similar event occurred in an AGR the operators would have several hours. Sir Alan also pointed out that the design of *AGRs is well understood by* British engineers. There are several other advantages of AGRs over PWRs that should be mentioned.

In the case of a temperature excursion in an AGR there is no change of state in the graphite moderator and hence no loss of moderation, where as in a PWR the criticality increases as the water moderator turns to steam. The fuel elements in AGRs are more substantial and farther apart than in PWRs and hence less like'y to touch each other if overheated, causing less danger of hot spots.

As Mr T. F. Powys-Lybbe noted in his letter (*The Times*, December 28) PWRs have thermal efficiency of barely 30 per cent, whereas AGRs have a design efficiency of over 40 per cent, producing about a third more *electricity for the same* heat input. This increased efficiency in AGRs results in lower uranium requirement and radioactive waste production and hence less cost and environmental impact associated with *uranium mining and waste disposal.*

It is very probable that, except on the best coastal sites, future nuclear reactors will need to use cooling towers to avoid further thermal pollution of our rivers and seashores. The cost of such cooling will be less for the more efficient AGR.

The Government's policy for building PWRs in this country appears to be partly founded on the view that PWRs are cheaper to build. Is it not likely that PWRs built to British safety standards could cost as much if not more than AGRs?

The development of PWRs for the United Kingdom may encounter no lesser problems as those experienced in the development of AGRs.

Finally, if money is to be spent on energy in this country, as it must, we should do several things. We should improve the safety standards of British nuclear and fossil fuel power stations and their associated fuel production plants. We should develop energy efficiency and conservation. We should mount an intensive programme for the conversion of coal to oil and gas.

Furthermore, we should seriously support the development of the alternative sources of energy which this country and all others need.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,
G. R. BAINBRIDGE,
S. V. BAJAY,
M. R. BRETT-CROWTHER,
R. A. D. FERGUSON,
A. C. GRIFFITHS,
J. R. LAIDLER,
E. SCOTT,
G. B. SPILLER,
C. WHITE,
The Energy Centre,
The University,
Stephenson Building,
Claremont Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU,
February 28.

Protectionist policy behind Greek tariffs

From Mr M. P. Christides

Sir, After studying Mario Mondiano's report from Athens (*The Times*, Business News February 20) some of your readers may be excused in thinking that from January 1, 1980, the conditions shall have been created for Common Market businessmen or other *citizens (eg, people wishing to spend their retirement in the sun!)* to establish themselves in Greece. This is not quite so! I am referring to that part of the report where it is stated that due to Greece's Association Agreement with the EEC since 1962, import tariffs on EEC industrial products have already been eliminated in the case of products not manufactured locally and reduced to 32 per cent for the rest.

*If such prospective business*men or other individuals were to take up residence in Greece, they would find to their horror—as many other expatriates already did—that to take through local customs, for instance, an ordinary 2-litre family saloon, would set them back by as much as the original cost of the car and in some instances considerably more. (I am thinking of a friend of mine who was *asked to pay over £45,000 for* his £10,000 Range-Rover!)

This is due to punitive "National Taxes" (under one name or other) which successive Greek governments have devised over the years to boost up revenue, and the present Government shows no signs of intending to abolish. Another example of "enlightened" government is the yardstick used by the Greek equivalent ot Inland Revenue in determining the taxable income of individuals. This is based not on his or her declared earnings but on the . . . horsepower of the car he or she happens to be driving (eg, for a typical 2-litre saloon, one may expect to be slotted into the £9-10,000 pa bracket regardless of whether *one makes that much or not!*).

Such kind of protectionist "taxes" which bear no resemblance to the amount of our VAT or Car Tax, as well as the arbitrary taxation measures and backword mentality which prevail, not only in tax assessment, will have to be changed if all those who live in Greece are to have a chance of enjoying as equals the benefits and the quality of life of an enlarged Community. As the Greek Government is not likely to volunteer such changes, pressure by the present Nine must be brought to bear.

Yours very truly,
M. P. CHRISTIDES,
49 Beaufort Road,
London W5 3EB,
February 21.

Campaign to legalize CB radio

From Mr James M. Bryant

Dear Sir, Your recent report in the Business News states that the newly-formed National Committee for the Legalization of Citizens Band Radio is composed of Citizens Band Radio users' groups. In fact it is composed of groups who would like to use CB—the actual use of CB is *illegal in the United Kingdom* despite its widespread use elsewhere and its undoubted potential for saving life.

The NCLCBR acts as a co-ordinating body to advise the *groups (like my own)* which are campaigning for the legalization of CB. It also maintains liaison with the Parliamentary C.B. Committee.

The committee believes that CB could be a £100m business in the United Kingdom and that its introduction would enrich the quality of life here. The refusal to allow it reflects little credit on the present, or previous Governments.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES M. BRYANT,
Treasurer, NCLCBR,
President, Citizens Band Association,
16 Church Road,
St Marks,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire GL51 7AN.
February 27.

No support for accessions tax from 'Continental Europe'

From Dr Barry Bracewell-Milnes

Sir, In the article *Capital taxation: what chance of radical reform this time?* Adrienne Gleeson speaks of "an accessions tax, of the kind widely applied in Continental Europe". But far from being "widely applied in Continental Europe", an accessions tax is unknown there. The 1979 OECD report *The Taxation of Net Wealth, Capital Transfers and Capital Gains of Individuals*, covering almost all the countries of (Western) Continental Europe states: "*No OECD country* at present has an accessions tax at the central or federal government level". (Page 62).

Adrienne Gleeson's article may be confusing an accessions tax with an inheritance tax. An accessions tax is defined by the OECD as "an inheritance-based tax, where the tax base and rate of tax is (sic) governed by the total amount received in legacies (and gifts) from all donors". An inheritance tax is defined by the OECD as "a tax levied on a capital transfer as a result of a death, where the tax base and the rate of tax are governed by the amount received by the beneficiary *(donee) from any one estate.*"

The common Continental pattern of transfer taxation differs from the British pattern not only in being based on the transferee rather than the transferor but *in two other points which are at the heart of cur*rent controversy.

First, the transferor-based British system adds together transfers to all recipients; no OECD country has a transferee-based system adding together transfers from all transferors: in British terms, it is as though the tax *base were separate* for every recipient.

Second, among the 21 respondents to the OECD questionnaire, only two (Italy and the United States) had lifetime cumulation on the British pattern and only four (France, Greece, Ireland and Portugal) had lifetime cumulation even for transfers from the same transferor to the same recipient.

There is thus no support in foreign precedent for an accessions tax and little support for the most objectionable features of the present. British tax—cumulation of transfers over a lifetime and cumulation *irrespective of the identity of* the recipient.

Whatever else is done to capital transfer tax on March 26, apart from the ideal remedy of its abolition, the top priority is to end lifetime cumulation and to confine the tax on gifts to *gifts made within a short* period of the transferor's death. The taxation of gifts brings in a derisory sum in Britain, as in the other nine OECD countries for which *information* is available (something over £20m in Britain, or well under a tenth of the total yield of capital transfer tax); and (as has been argued in *British Tax Review* 6 1979), gift tax in general and lifetime *cumulation* in particular have the paradoxical result of increasing the inequality of wealth: almost all lifetime transfers are from richer to poorer, and this process of voluntary redistribution is inhibited or frustrated by taxation. "As a means of encouraging the dispersion of wealth", in the words of Adrienne Gleeson's article, capital transfer tax is not merely "not all that efficient"; it has the opposite effect to what is intended. This is just *one* of the many strong arguments for its abolition.

Adrienne Gleeson's article is equally wide of the mark in what it has to say on capital gains tax. In its present form, capital gains tax is an arbitrary compromise, unjustifiable on grounds of principle, between taxing capital gains as income and not taxing them at all. Tapering is at least logical: the longer an asset is held, the less its resemblance to income and the less the tax to which it should be subject, if any. Most of the alleged problems of tapering become unimportant or even insignificant if the period of *taper is sufficiently short.*

Finally, the combined yield of capital transfer tax and capital gains tax is not much more than 1 per cent of tax revenue in total and will be much less if the Government's commitments *to reform* are taken seriously. The remaining yield will not be worth collecting through the mechanism of separate taxes, and this is not the least of the arguments for their abolition.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY BRACEWELL-MILNES.
26 Lancaster Court,
Banstead,
Surrey SM7 1RR.
February 21.

Need for capital tax simplicity

From Mr F. A. Bevis

Sir, I read with interest the article by *Adrienne Gleeson* (February 20) on capital taxation. Perhaps what was missing was a strong plea for simplicity. The aim of the Inland Revenue has been fairness but this has not been achieved without complexity and a heavy wastage in man-hours (both for the Inland Revenue and the accounting profession).

In the case of capital gains tax the recent high rate inflation necessitates swift acton if man-hours are not to be wasted calculating miserable amounts of tax. And exemption for gains up to £10,000 in a year would ease this burden as in most cases it would be readily apparent that no tax would be payable.

An easing of the burden of capital gains tax would be *achieved if some form of* "roll-over" relief was made available, as in capital transfer tax on the £2,000 relief for annual gifts.

Taxpayers, particularly those having assets in other than quoted investments, *often* never fully use up the CGT reliefs available on gains up to £9,500 but have to pay the full 30 per cent rate when, for example, a property other than their main residence is sold. A carried-forward of these unused reliefs for up to five years would be equitable.

The present capital transfer tax rules hit the least wealthy families hard. A husband with only £25,000 of assets can hardly use his "nil rate" in gifts other than to his surviving spouse whose estate, if she also has assets of £25,000, will suffer CTT on £25,000 at her death.

Any unused "nil rate" of the first spouse to die should be made available on the death of the surviving spouse (preferably without a complex schedule dealing with the remarriage of the surviving spouse).

The reliefs suggested above would do much to assist the "not-so-wealthy" and eliminate computation costs which I suspect is more then indexation will do.

Yours faithfully,
F. A. BEVIS
Solicitor,
49 St James's Street,
London, SW1A 1JT.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Interest rates on the boil again

The strength of the dollar in response to speculation on tighter United States anti-inflationary policies and still higher interest rates was the dominant feature of financial markets yesterday. Sterling, for once, took something of a knock once the American markets opened during the afternoon, though it is going to take considerably more than a 3 cent fall to persuade markets that the pound's recent run of considerable relative strength is about to run out of steam.

Meanwhile, the Bank of England's campaign to hold down domestic interest rates goes on. Before the weekend the Bank announced, not unexpectedly, that this Friday's planned special deposits recall was being deferred until mid-May. And judging by yesterday's performance in money markets—with the overnight rate touching 20 per cent and the one-week rate 18¾ per cent—the system is going to need every bit of help the authorities can muster.

True, yesterday's rates reflected an exceptional situation in the face of very large payments of Petroleum Revenue Tax. But unless rates start to ease back fairly smartly, then round-tripping can be expected to start up again in earnest.

Presumably the authorities will see to it that the banks have no reserve asset problems in the run up to make-up day (March 16), considering if necessary an extension of the present gilt-edged repurchase deal. But whether or not they will consider further help to be needed or possible is unclear.

Certainly, one could make a perfectly sound case for the clearers to raise their base rates in the present circumstances—and all the signs are that some of the American banks in London have been raising their lending costs.

But it would be staggering to see it actually happen, unless perhaps United States rates have a lot further to rise than commonly supposed. Could the Chancellor really expect the electorate to swallow his Budget against a background of yet another increase in base rates?

As for the banks, already under political fire for the profits they have made out of government monetary policy, the potential problems accompanying any move to raise base rates are, to say the least, interesting. To raise base rates alone would increase profitability still further. To raise deposit rate as well would, I suspect, send the building societies round to Downing Street faster than you could say "mortgage rate".

Royal Insurance

Underwriting losses

A £21m drop to £132m in full-year profits at Royal Insurance was not quite as bad as the market had feared. In part this was due to a technical boost; a switch from triennial to annual valuation of the life fund.

On the general side, however, underlying trends were far from inspiring.

As with Commercial Union and General Accident, which reported last week, the picture from Royal is of a catalogue of misfortunes on the underwriting front, where losses totalled £16.4m against a previous profit of £25.4m, with partial relief coming from burgeoning investment income, up 10.4 per cent in sterling terms at £133.3m.

In the United States the group reversed into losses of £8.2m against profits previously of £10.5m, despite a £5.5m surplus in the final quarter.

But the real blackspot was Canada. Here, a £2.4m surplus turned into a £14.9m deficit as claims frequency increased in automobile and householder lines. Although it does not expect to return to the black in Canada this year recent rate increases should reduce the pressure, while Royal seems to share the view of CU and GA, that, allowing for climatic catastrophes, the downturn in United States underwriting conditions may not be quite so severe as the market believes.

Hope springs eternal, of course, as far as the composites are concerned, but at least Royal, is playing cautiously in the United States at the moment by sticking to realistic rates in the face of increasing competition and attempting to shift business away from the North Eastern states where claims frequency have been worst. As a result United States premiums rose only 3 per cent last year.

The shares up 7p to 343p yesterday thanks to the 14.5 per cent increase in the dividend, now yield close on 9 per cent and sell at 6¼ times earnings. This looks right given that in the current year a continuing deterioration in underwriting profits should at best only be marginally ahead of last year's total.

Fisons

Pressure on the balance sheet

Hard hit by industrial disputes and the poor weather in the early part of the year, which knocked some £4m off the profits, and the strength of sterling which caused a further £3½m fall, Fisons was doing its level best yesterday to blame external factors for the quarter fall in pre-tax profits to £17.3m.

The harsh facts of life are that the group has been running out of steam for the last four years and its research-based activities are finding it increasingly difficult to provide it with the growth niche it enjoyed in the early 1970's.

Plainly, Fisons has been anxious to find another leg to stand on and the Gallenkamp acquisition three years ago showed it was pinning a lot of faith in the highly fragmented scientific instruments market.

As it is Fisons did a little better in the second half although with the high break-even point in continuous process divisions like fertilizers there was no chance of clawing back anything but a little of the £4.3m first half downturn.

Both Fertilizers and agrochemicals had little opportunity for getting price rises through while soaring raw material costs, especially sulphur, eroded margins further, although the launch of several new products helped the second half.

Pharmaceuticals had a tougher time in the second half because of sterling while scientific equipment ended the year an eight down at £4.6m after he engineering strike and cutback in United Kingdom public spending in the second half.

The strains have started to appear on the balance sheet where borrowings have risen £15m to £45m largely to finance acquisitions pushing up gearing 8 points to 62 per cent of shareholders funds and interest charges almost two fifths to £6½m. The better news is that the second half has done better despite the strength of sterling and the group has increased the dividend rather more than expected to 23½p gross where the yield at 292p is 8 per cent.

After last year's outflow of around £8m, there should be a psitive cash flow this year helped by some trimming of capital spending. Next year should see profits recovering to £23m but after the strong rise in the shares already this year a prospective p e ratio of almost 6 is high enough after the setback in 1979.

● *The weekend announcement of measures to support the Japanese yen followed a couple of months of pretty dismal news. January's unadjusted current account deficit was the highest ever recorded, at $3.24bn (as against a previous high of $2.2bn in the preceding November); the year-on-year increase in wholesale prices is now over 17 per cent; and sharp increases in the prices charged by public utilities are likely to push the increase in retail prices into double figures. All of which helps to explain why the yen has dropped from around 240 to 248 to the dollar, dangerously close to the psychologically important 250 level, and roughly 30 per cent down on the peak of autumn 1978.*

A weakened currency is not necessarily a cause for unmitigated woe: and indeed, the Japanese have benefited from theirs, as the surge in exports—up by 11.9 per cent in December—indicates. However, there have been signs recently that continued aggressive selling could provoke retaliation.

Decisions to activate swap arrangements suggest that the Japanese authorities are serious, all right; but it will probably be a matter of weeks before it becomes apparent whether they are successful. In the meantime, those who have put their money into Japan already should sit tight; but it would not do those who are contemplating such a move any harm to wait on the event.

Frank Vogl examines an industry which backs protectionism

The steel giants play politics again

Washington.

The American steel industry is blunt and to the point when asked why its earnings are so dismal. Its response, as explicity stated in a report recently published by the American Iron and Steel Institute is:

(1) Persistently low rates of return coupled with outdated tax measures that fail to provide adequate capital recovery.

(2) Capture of a significant portion of the domestic market by steel imports at "dumping prices".

(3) Excessive government control and regulation, which significantly increase steelmaking costs and mandate the spending of funds that would otherwise be available for replacement and modernization of productive equipment.

(4) Reduced earnings as a result of unwarranted government interference in the marketplace determination of steel prices, which has restricted recovery of cost increases.

(5) Escalation of steelmaking costs at a rate in excess of increases in steel prices.

Few industries in America, and none so large as steel, are as boringly insistent that government is all to blame for balance sheets strewn with red ink. The arguments that the steel companies make can be shot full of holes, and the Carter Administration appears quite willing to do this.

There is little sympathy in Washington for the steel industry's complaints, in large measure because many experts familiar with the industry have become convinced that the complaints aim primarily to serve two basic purposes: first, to mask the bitter truth that much of the industry's management is weak and, secondly, that attacks on government may dampen the degree of government protests when steel firm's boost prices.

Right now, as the companies mount their assault on the government for inadequate protection from foreign rivals, the domestic steel selling prices are rising. On Friday, for example, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, the second largest American steel firm, said prices for sheet products will be raised by an average of 5 per cent, effective with shipments on April 1. The company swiftly added that the increases are well within the White House Wage and Price Council's voluntary price increase guidelines.

The steel industry knows that it will not win any special tax relief from the Carter Administration and the Congress, nor will it win special exemptions from environmental regulations, or from the White House price guidelines. Given these circumstances and the arguments it uses on its condition, it is hardly surprising that the industry should, as of right now, be concentrating in particular on trade protection. In this area, at least, the steel firms believe they have a chance to win government assistance.

In an election year anything is possible, including the abandonment by President Carter of the trigger price mechanism for regulating imported steel prices, that was developed in 1977 by Mr Anthony Solomon, former Under Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs. The mechanism was considered by President Carter as a preferable alternative to high tariffs or tough import quotas—reluctantly the Japanese and the European steel producers accepted the scheme. The trigger prices are based on the production costs of the world's most efficient group of steel manufacturers, the Japanese. Prices are updated every quarter, with a 5 per cent boost having been introduced for the current quarter.

It will be fascinating to see what precise numbers and detailed arguments the United States steel companies put forward to the government to support their contention that the trigger prices are ineffective and that they have not prevented dumping. The problem on this front for the American steelmakers is simply that imports have declined.

In 1978 the United States imported 21.1 million tons of steel, but the 1979 total was down to 17.5 million. Making matters worse, perhaps, for the protectionists is the prospect of a further decline in imports this year. One forecast made by Armco Steel, for example, points to a 16 million ton import total for this year.

Meanwhile, the American producers attained their third highest ever level of shipments last year of 100.3 million tons, after a total of 97.9 million in the previous year. How do you assert foreigners are ruining your business and ought to be shut out of your market when your sales are up and the sales of the foreigners are down?

To be sure, the Americans face the prospect of cuts in domestic demand this year and Mr Lewis Foy of Bethlehem Steel predicts, for example, that 1980 shipments will be down to the 90 to 93 million level. The reason, of course, is the slump in the American economy, not foreign sales strategies.

The car industry is the single largest taker of American steel product, accounting for more than 18 per cent and, thanks to the full-scale car sales recession now, the demand for steel from the car makers in December was down more than 45 per cent. The second biggest steel buyer is the construction industry, accounting for over 14 per cent of demand, and this sector is also depressed.

The truth is that the main dampener on domestic steel pirces has not been imports, but the White House price guidelines and the Administartion, with its distrust of the steel companies, has been watching the steel firms carefully.

But the "bottom line" as Americans say is that the United States steel industry is far less efficient than it ought to be. At last there are signs that some of the industry's leaders recognize this. United States Steel, by far the largest American steel company, has embarked on a massive rationalization programme to close all or part of 16 unprofitable facilities and cut 13,000 jobs.

This programme and the decision to wirte off the closure costs of $808.6m all in one go accounts for the United States steel losses last year, amounting to $293m overall, and fully $561.7m in the final quarter. When the results were announced a few weeks ago one securities analyst was quoted by the Wall Street Journal as saying "the root of US Steel's problems does seem to be a longstanding resistance to change."

It is ironic, perhaps, that just as the American steel companies are mounting another attack on the foreigners, they are for the first time striving to learn all they can from their foreign rivals. So much so that US Steel recently signed a three-year contract with Nippon Steel under which it will buy technical advice aimed at increasing blast furnace productivity.

Despite all the bluster, it is a contract like this that suggests that the steel men of the United States know that it is modernization and greater efficiency on their part, not government restrictions and alleged dumping, that is at the heart of their troubles.

More upheavals ahead for engineering

Two great deficiencies are fast whittling away the morale of engineering industry leaders. These are rapidly declining competitiveness in overseas markets and an appallingly slow rate of productivity growth at home.

These factors, combined with high domestic inflation and interest rates and an alarming dip in home orders make further contractions almost inevitable. There are many in the industry who predict that in the next 18 months there could be big upheavals which will sap further the strength of this important manufacturing sector.

The signs are plain. The impact of last year's spate of industrial relations troubles, including the road haulage dispute and the series of engineering strikes, is now contributing to an abnormally high level of failures among engineering companies, especially smaller concerns. On January 24 firms went bankrupt, three times the usual rate.

The longer the national steel strike continues, the greater will be the threat to engineering. The total number of collapses this year could be as high as 300.

In foreign markets engineering salesmen are increasingly facing almost insurmountable odds when tendering for orders. The chart, produced by the mechanical engineering industry's tripartite short-term trends working party, shows how the combination of a strong pound and cost pressures on United Kingdom manufacturers has widened the price competitiveness gap between Britain and, in particular, the United States and Japan.

Compared with 1975, the price disadvantage suffered by British exporters is now about 11 per cent in comparison with West Germany, more than 30 per cent with the United States and 50 per cent with Japan.

The working party, in its last report, said: "Whereas relatively minor fluctuations—perhaps up to 15 per cent—may be offset to some extent by improved competitiveness in other factors such as product performance, reliability, delivery or customer service, a disadvantage as large as 30 per cent or 50 per cent can only result in substantial loss of business".

Opportunities for cutting costs to eradicate such a large differential are non-existent. Material and fuel costs alone are expected to rise by about 13 per cent in the first quarter of this year compared with last year. The effect of these increases has been to boost home and export engineering product prices at a rate equal to 13 or 14 per cent a year.

At 1980 prices, energy costs now account directly or indirectly for 7 per cent of the price of engineering products, and this proportion is bound to increase.

The generally accepted view in the industry is that the dip in its trading surplus has been masked by a similar reduction in the trade deficit in oil. "The United Kingdom has simply enjoyed an income from extracting oil in exchange for a reduction in income from manufacturing activity", the working party said.

Mr Michael Hoffman, chairman of the Perkins Engines Group in the United Kingdom, recently called for cheaper export credit guarantees and an export rebate scheme to help industry. These schemes, which are aimed at giving industry a breathing space in which to halt the slide, could fall foul of the European Commission.

In the past 25 years, the profitability of manufacturing has fallen throughout the world but more so in the United Kingdom than elsewhere. This has depressed internal and external investment and eroded competitiveness, while low productivity has emasculated what investment there has been.

The Finniston report on engineering showed that in 1970 the level of British productivity was 65 per cent of the West German level, measured in terms of value added per employee, and 47 per cent of the Japanese, but by 1977 the proportions had deteriorated to 61 per cent and 38 per cent respectively.

The report said that several studies of production methods in British companies supported by much technical literature and many "awareness" programmes had indicated specific measures which could raise productivity, reduce manufacturing costs and increase profits, "thereby increasing the flow of funds for investment in innovation and new industries catering to world markets as well as improving the total climate for investment in manufacturing industry".

Mechanical engineering suffered a net loss of 27,000 jobs in the 10 months to October 1979, and the trend is likely to continue this year. But this has been caused by employers' reactions to the slump in sales and orders and it appears that the average level of productivity is lower now than five years ago.

Rationalization, the euphemism so often used for job-cutting, has been rife in engineering. Among the more severe cases was Alfred Herbert, the machine tool group which announced its last-ditch survival plan in January and the loss of 700 jobs, and the Weir Group, which has recently closed four companies with the loss of 1,100 jobs.

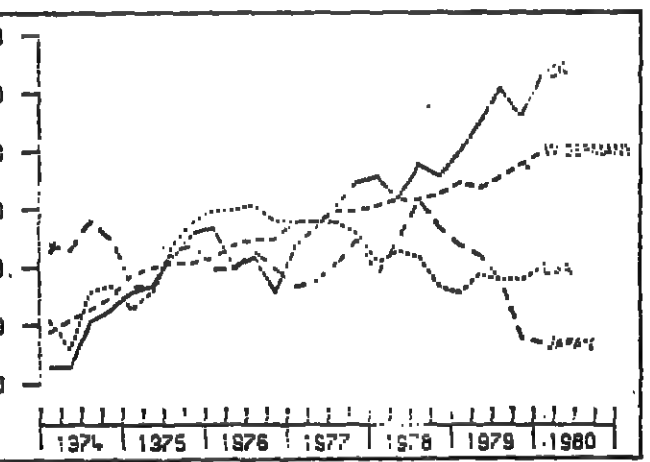
The aim has been to streamline, cut out loss-making activities and concentrate on areas associated with new technology. Such moves, however, must be made in tandem with attempts to increase productivity and in engineering generally there is a need for greater communication of objectives to the shop floor, more consideration of the use of computerized machine tools and increased management control of production processes.

The structural changes now apparent in the British mechanical engineering industry are certain to be accelerated during the coming 18 months. Even with direct government support, which is unlikely, only the most efficient can hope to emerge as competitive force, on world markets.

Edward Townsend

QUARTERLY MOVEMENTS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING EXPORT PRICES

(in Deutschemarks: 1973 = 100)



Source: Department of Trade and United Nations
Note: 1980 first quarter indices are estimates based on exchange rates as at January 23

Flying start for US businessmen

Deregulation, the aviation policy which has brought United States domestic fares tumbling down and led to a proliferation of new airline routes, is producing some amazing travel bargains for the American businessman.

Between Los Angeles and Miami, for instance, he is being asked to pay a one-way fare equivalent to £78.66, or 3.4p a mile, between New York and San Francisco £125.36, or 5.1p a mile, and between Chicago and Vancouver £80, or 4.5p a mile.

These bargains are not being reflected in the rest of the world, and particularly not in Europe, where the cost of air travel has been traditionally high.

According to a survey carried out by Travel Trade Gazette, the fare between London and Paris works out at 22.5p a mile for the 209 miles. TTG says it based its fares on the economy fare for the routes which it surveyed. On some, and certainly on the London to Paris route, lower fares are available, but these are usually so hedged around with conditions that they are of little use to the business community.

To Amsterdam from London, the one way fare is £49.50, which works out at 21.5p a mile, to Stockholm £141.50 (15.6p), to Madrid £113.50 (14.8p), to Rome £124.50 (14p), to Athens £188.50 (12.6p), and to Munich £84.50 (14.6p). An economy single from London to Moscow costs £231, which is 14.8p a mile.

Air fares within Britain are just as high as they are into Europe, the most savage being the 22p a mile asked for the journey between London and Birmingham, where the one-way fare is £22.

London to Glasgow costs £41 (11.7p a mile), to Edinburgh £41 (11.9p), to Dublin £41 (14.1p), to Manchester £26 (15.9p), to Jersey £29 (17.3p) and to Belfast £37 (11p).

The airlines justify higher fares within Britain and Europe compared with the United States by pointing out that costs are generally higher. Certainly, airlines pay much more for their kerosene when they load it at European airports, while charges for airways navigation, landing, aircraft parking, and airport security are higher.

The British Airports Authority has just increased the aircraft handling charges at most of the seven airports which it operates by an average of 35 per cent. Heathrow charges went up by 40 per cent, Gatwick by 20 per cent, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Prestwick by 35 per cent, and Aberdeen by 70 per cent. The BAA asked for the increases to help it fund a £700m capital expenditure programme over the next five years. It must also meet a new financial target of 6 per cent return on net assets set by the Government.

At about the same time, the Department of Trade increased the security levy by 95 per cent to £1.60 a passenger, terminal navigation charges at the chief British airports went up by up to 28.5 per cent, and Eurocontrol air traffic control charges by 21.4 per cent. Each of these increases is being reflected in higher passenger fares.

The impact of Sir Freddie Laker's cheap Skytrain service can be seen on fares between London and cities in the United States. London to New York costs £218.50 (6.3p a mile), London to Los Angeles £318.50 (5.8p), London to Chicago £263 (6.6p) and London Miami £243.50 (5.6p). This is the cheapest fare a mile out of London, and the survey comments that if this mile rate were applied to the London-Paris route, the cost would come down from £47 to £11.70.

But before American businessmen congratulate themselves on their good fortune in the travel bargains which they are enjoying, they should be warned that the airlines in their country are looking for hefty fare increases to keep pace with the rapidly-rising cost of kerosene.

The year 1979 was disastrous for most of the big American airlines, largely due to fuel price increases. Eight which have so far reported returned a total profit equivalent to only £122m compared with £279m in 1978, while three of them made significant losses. Braniff lost £19m, after making about the same amount in profit the previous year. Continental lost £5m (compared with a profit of £21m), and Trans World lost £11m (compared with a profit of £15m).

Arthur Reed

Business Diary: Dollar gaps • Dell for Fourth Channel?

A sudden dollar crisis could find the United States Treasury in deep personnel trouble. The Treasury Secretary, William Miller, is so busy with allegations over his conduct as chairman of Textron and is under intense pressure from the White House to rush on a new anti-inflation plan, that he seems to have little time for anything else.

The Treasury's international section is in disarray. On Friday Anthony Solomon, the Undersecretary for Monetary Affairs, left to become president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Weir Brown, the Inspector General, for international Affairs at Treasury, retired, at the same time as Eisle Widman, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of International Economic Affairs. Neither has been replaced.

Fred Bergsten, Assistant-Secretary for International Affairs—the remaining top man in international affairs—thought he would be named "acting undersecretary" this weekend, but he was not.

Miller says the fort will be held and the shop will be minded by Robert Carswell, 51. As Deputy Treasury Secretary he is really the department's chief administrator. Carswell, a lawyer, has been busy with the Iranian asset freeze.

But he has experience of neither debt management nor currency matters. His appointment will be seen by Bergsten as an affront and by others as bringing into question Miller's own man-management.

Jane Gillett (above) paid a visit to the City yesterday to receive a Secretary of the Year award from the Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Gordon Richardson. Miss Gillett is 20 and the youngest winner so far of this award, which is made for the highest marks in the Private Secretary's Diploma examination of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Sir Gordon presented her with a gold medal, silver salver and cheques worth £130 as well as the diploma. Miss Gillett works for the electricity board in Bristol.

Though the former Labour Trade Secretary Edmund Dell (right) is now favourite for the first chairman of the Fourth TV Channel, the IBA had been considering two other people.

One was Peter Jay, ex-Washington ambassador, now a lobbyist and journalist in the United States, and Richard Hoggart, author of The Uses of Literacy and now Warden of Goldsmith's College, London.

Jay, however was not offered the job. Hoggart wasn't too keen anyway because he is not fond of commercial broadcasting.

Dell, who may be appointed around Easter, is more at home with Mammon. In 1978 he resigned as Labour Trade Secretary to become chairman-elect of Guinness Peat. The IBA job will be part-time.

The authority's first choice, surprise, surprise, was a Conservative, former Industry Minister (and television newsreader) Christopher Chataway. He apparently thought that he had enough to do as managing director of Orion Bank and member of other boards.

As a former "tellyperson"—which Dell isn't—Chataway would realise that the chairmanship is not as interesting as that of the chief executive, controller of programmes. This, it is felt, will be a surer indicator of how the new channel will look when it takes to the air in 1982.

A front runner is Jeremy Isaacs, former Thames Television executive, though London Weekend Television head of current affairs John Birt is not being ruled out.

● The present fashion for involving the law in industrial relations took a new turn yesterday when employees of Ede & Ravenscroft, wig and robemakers (to Lord Denning among others) went on strike for the first time in nearly three centuries.

The firm refuses to negotiate with Clive Jenkins's Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

The union claims membership of the majority of Ede & Ravenscroft staff at the Chancery Lane, London, and Leatherhead, Surrey, branches.

Pickets carried banners which read "Founded in the reign of William and Mary 1689. Industrial relations circa William and Mary. When will the 20th century arrive?"

As if to back up the employees' view of industrial relations there, the company yesterday declined to comment, leaving the union's case unchallenged.

● Sponsorship of the arts can bring new perplexities to the oil industry as was shown by the Mobil concert at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, at the weekend.

The violinist Itzhak Perlman was to give a recital of Mozart with the English Chamber Orchestra but on the morning of his appearance, he was taken to hospital with an ear infection.

However, by the time Mobil Oil Company chairman George Pusack and managing director Sir Nevil Macready took their seats with their party, the show was still very much on.

Perlman's place was taken by José-Luis Garcia, the leader of the English Chamber Orchestra. His repertoire is such that both the main pieces, the symphonies in A and G major, were no problem, and his performance such that it was difficult to know whether the warmer reception came from the orchestra or the audience.

The ECO is specializing in rush jobs these days. On Monday they're off for a tour of Israel set up at the last moment after the players called off a Russian tour in protest at the invasion of Afghanistan. Perlman, by the way, is now well again.

Ralph Bennett, London Transport chairman, seems to share Olympians' distaste for Mrs Thatcher's opposition to the Moscow Games. I saw one of his number 24 buses lumbering past Downing Street and it bore an advertisement for "Aeroflot Soviet Airlines: official Olympics carrier." But then the number 24 goes to Hampstead.

Ross Davies

Briefly

AMEY ROADSTONE
Further expansion in the United States is announced by Amey Roadstone Corporation a subsidiary of Consolidated Goldfields which has acquired the assets of Taggart Construction of Las Vegas. Taggart is a leading supplier of construction materials in Southern Nevada and has production facilities at three sites in Arizona.

HOFFNUNG-BURNS
Chairman of S. Hoffnung strongly recommends shareholders to take no action on Burns Philp bid, which he says is unacceptable and inadequate; he will be writing shortly, with detailed reasons.

FORWARD TECHNOLOGY
Permission received from France and Holland for takeover by Forward Technology Industries through its Dutch offshoot of 64 per cent of Mecasonic of France for 3m francs (£320,000).

QUEENS MOAT HOUSES
Queens Moat Houses has bought freehold of Leicestershire Moat House, Oadby, from Everards Brewery, for £325,000.

CAMFORD ENGINEERING
Chairman reports in his annual statement that order books are higher than ever and Camford Engineering is looking for ways to boost production facilities. He remains optimistic that Camford should enjoy another record year's trading.

ISLE OF MAN ENTERPRISES
Turnover for year to October 31, 1979, £232,000 (£202,000). Net profits, £89,000 (£73,000). Dividend raised from 3p to 3.5p.

BOLTON TEXTILE MILL
Turnover for half-year to October 31, £5.8m (£5.7m). Pretax profits, £103,000 (£149,000).

PLASTIC CONSTRUCTIONS
At annual meeting of Plastic Constructions, chairman, Mr Henry Aron, said: "Since the end of the financial year the economic scene continues to have its difficulties. As a group we serve industry and while the steel strike has not affected us directly it has had unfavourable repercussions on some sections of our customers."

VANTAGE SECURITIES
Chairman reports in his annual statement that there seems every reason to expect good results again *this year*

LONDON MERCHANT
London Merchant Securities and Eastern Produce (Holdings) are negotiating to merge Walker Frampton and Ernest Notcutt, *their insurance broking offshoots.*

ESTATES & AGENCY
Following acquisition of underlease secured on basement, ground and mezzanine floors of a Piccadilly property by Estates & *Agency Holdings, an agreement for* lease has been exchanged for basement floor. Lease will produce an annual rental income of £80,000.

CREDIT FOR POLAND
The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed the repayment and funding for a US$30m line of credit which National Westminster Bank has made available to Bank Handlowy w Warszawie SA of Poland. The loan will help finance contracts awarded by Polish buyers to United Kingdom exporters for the supply of United Kingdom-produced chemicals and artificial fibres.

UNILOCK GROUP
Unilock Group is to acquire a majority shareholding in Curtis Steel of Radstock, distributors of steel partitions made by Curtsons Group.

Stock markets

Recession forecast makes little impact

Most sections of the stock market held up fairly well to the latest batch of gloomy news yesterday, though buyers were scarce.

Oils remained buoyant, helped by the latest batch of brokers' circulars and press comment, while gilts held their own despite fears over the worsening money supply and rising interest rates.

Jobbers were quick to read the signs as the latest economic pointers were released and marked their prices lower at the outset of business in order to deter the profit takers. But despite reports that the country was heading for two years of recession during which inflation would remain in double figures there was very little real selling.

As a result, shares were making some attempt to recover by mid-morning but gradually drifted away throughout the afternoon on general lack of interest.

Oils encountered further heavy buying, particularly among the lesser-known second liners, while speculative situations and takeovers again provided one or two areas of light relief among the rest of equities.

Gilts were subdued by the general shortage of money as they approached the budget and the continuing rise in interest rates throughout the world.

In longs dealers reported very little interest as prices drifted steadily throughout the day along with sterling. So that at the close prices were showing falls of between a £¼ and £¾ with the new "tap" remaining virtually untested.

The shorter end of the market made a spirited attempt at a recovery when after an easy start buyers came in and *pushed prices anything up to a* £½ better. However, at the close profit taking and the setback in sterling left them unchanged on Friday's close.

Business after hours was inclined to fall off through lack of interest so that at the close the *FT* Index was 3.6 down at 463.5.

Leading industrials were generally easier, although off the bottom in most cases.

Support for Airfix industries was seen yesterday with the threat of a High Court injunction to remove the workforce sitting in at the group's Meccano factory. The price firmed to 19p as the Airfix Industries Trust said it had bought a further 14,850 shares in the group.

Fisons full year figures were the main talking point being deemed to be just about in line with expectations. But it was the increased dividend which enabled it to rise 3p to 292p. Unilever, reporting today, was nervous and dipped 3p to 443p accompanied by ICI at 396p, Glaxo at 254p and Dunlop at 65p all shedding a couple of pence. Profit taking following its announcement of a major contract knocked Hawkers 6p to 180p but press comment lifted Pilkington Bros 3p to 233p.

Oils came in for some active buying, which soon overcame an early bout of profit-taking. But prices were generally below their best levels at the close.

The majors were in good form ahead of Shell's full-year figures next week, which are expected to show a substantial improvement over last year. BP was 2p stronger at 400p, Shell 8p higher at 406p, after 410p, but Ultramar slid 6p to 518p.

The second-liners also proved popular although Burmah was 1p lower, following all the speculative action of late, at 238p. Lasmo rose 5p to 528p, but profit-taking clipped 6p from Tricentrol at 328p.

Among the lesser known stocks, Kenmare jumped 33p to 103p after press comment, while Viking Oil, currently the target of Deminex, improved a further 65p to 980p, after touching £10 at one point. Profit-takers moved into Canada North West Oil, which doubled in price last week, as the shares slipped 2p to 22p.

An unwelcome mysterious bid approach left shares of Maple Holdings 6½p higher at 31p, but the talks were dismissed as a non-starter unless the cash offer is raised. Henderson Kenton the subject of an agreed offer from Harris Queensway, 4p softer at 186p, came in for profit-taking, dipping 4p to 212p. Elsewhere in furniture, speculation lifted Courts Furnishers 3p to 93p and Cantors 11p to 67p.

In builders, Armitage Shanks improved 1p to 78p following last week's shock news of Blue Circle's (down 2p to 312p) bid being referred to the Monopolies Commission. Buyers also became disillusioned with the lack of activity in Montague L. Meyer, tipped by some as a possible takeover candidate, as the shares drifted 1p to 114p.

Shares of Stanhope & General continued to make ground on last week's announcement that it was in talks which might lead to a bid, with the shares rising 15p to 200p, while Furness Withy rose 9p to 391p after comment on the attempt by C. Y. T Tung to gain control.

Shares of Howard Tenens, active of late on bid hopes, were suspended at 80p on the announcement of an approach to the company. The market has taken several lines of thought the most popular being that the group is having talks with a third party in order to stave off a bid from Mr Ian Wasserman, who is known to be interested.

Weekend press comment provided several bright features including Desoutter Bros 6p to 136p, Catalin 9p to 76p and Vosper 2p to 173p. Buyers also came in for Assam Investments 6p up at 127p and Peter Brotherhood 3p harder at 67p, but profit-taking lopped 11p from E. Fogarty at 79p.

Royal Insurance's full-year figures were well received among the composites, rising 7p to 343p, but failed to give much inspiration to the rest of the sector.

Shares of Cocksedge rose 7p to 43p yesterday but are still below last year's figures of 104p following the announcement of losses expected to be made for year to March 1980. However, observers believe the fall has been overdone with asset backing and freehold worth 300p a share and losses of only £400,000 expected.

Reports that the Government might do something to curb the bumper profits being earned by the banks as a result of its policies did little for sentiment. National Westminster contracted 1p to 350p, Barclays 5p to 441p, while Midland at 358p and Lloyds at 295p, both ended 3p lighter.

Equity turnover on February 29 was £114.629m (16,307 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were, Shell, Lasmo, Lonrho, Burmah, Premier, ICI, Furness Withy, Johnson Matthey and Consolidated Gold Fields.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Blagden & Nks (F)	61.2(54.5)	5.6(4.9)	26.4a(17.1)	4.7(4.2)	2/4	7.7(6.7)
Bolton Tex Mill (I)	5.8(5.7)	0.10(0.14)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Fisons (F)	433.0(348.0)	17.3(23.1)	35.6(50.7)	9.56(8.34)	10/4	16.45(14.34)
G. Ewer (F)	25.9(22.0c)	1.55(1.38c)	7.77(6.24)	1.9(1.3)	6/5	2.41(2.0)
IoMan Ent'prises (F)	0.23(0.20)	0.10(0.09)	7.34(6.02)	3.5(3.0)	26/5	—(—)
Invst Guernsey	—(—)	0.45b(0.47b)	—(—)	6.5(5.2)	1/5	10.0(8.25)
Royal Ins (F)	1,225.0(1,220.0)	132.0(153.0)	54.1(58.7)	13.25(11.5)	23/5	21.5(18.8)
Victor Products (I)	4.7(4.5)	0.70(0.64)	6.4(6.3)	1.5(0.74)	7/4	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a, due to tax change. b, net revenue.

Cork Gully refuse to be liquidator to Gilmore

By Philip Robinson

Leading accountants Cork Gully are now refusing to be liquidators to collapsed Smithfield meat trading company Gilmore & Partners, which ceased trading before Christmas with debts estimated at £1.5m.

Ahead of what is expected to be another stormy meeting of Gilmore's 100 creditors on Wednesday, Cork Gulley has already *indicated* it will decline any nomination to resume its position as liquidator.

Mr Roger Cork, who held the position following the first creditors' meeting, said last night: "*I do not want to comment on this.* We just felt that it was not appropriate for our firm to be liquidators.

Instead there is likely to be an election fight between accountants which certain factions of creditors favour. It is understood that these include Mr Ian Bond of Deloitte and Mr Michael Palmer of Arthur Young.

A further candidate could be nominated by meat traders Transoceanic, the group which brought a successful winding up petition against Gilmore, despite objections from other creditors.

Acting under instructions from the first creditors' investigating committee, it was Mr Cork who asked the Fraud Squad and the Director of Public Prosecutions to look into certain aspects of the company's affairs.

Meanwhile, one of Gilmore's biggest creditors, the publicly quoted meat company, J. E. Sanger, are in dispute with the Midland Bank over certain cheque encashments which relate to their trading with Gilmore.

A spokesman for Midland Bank said yesterday: "There is a dispute over certain cheques, but we cannot discuss the affairs of a private client."

Sanger's chairman said earlier *this* year that the *Gilmore* collapse could cost them £400,000, although he added that Sanger's prinicpal bankers, Midland and Hambros, have confirmed their support for the group.

Newly appointed deputy chairman Mr H. M. "Bill" Newton-Clare, who built Bowyers meat group before selling it to Unigate, confirmed yesterday that Sangers was in active discussions with its bankers.

"We are having discussions with people all the time", he said. "Our merchant bankers Hambros are coordinating discussions with our bankers and with other people. I cannot say whether there is any other company wanting to bid for us.

Trust's listing suspended

London and Liverpool Trust's share price listing was suspended yesterday at 29½p at the company's request pending publication of details of a reorganization.

It said that it was involved in negotiations over a major acquisition which would change the nature of its business and would therefore require shareholders' approval.

Accounting enforcement criticized

A stinging attack on the idea that accounting standards should be enforced or enforceable was made over the weekend by Mr Amory Packenham-Walsh, President of the Association of Certified Accountants. "In my view", Mr Packenham-Walsh said, "the profession should firmly and opening resist any movement to establish an authority to enforce standards, whether the authority be internal, external or mixed."

He went on to explain that his opposition to standard enforcement was "not in the selfish interests of self-regulation or protectiveness but in the interests of accountancy competence and professional judgment". If standards were to become rules, he said, professional judgment would be reduced.

Maple shares rise after bid rejection

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Shares of furniture retailer Maple & Co (Holdings) closed at 31p, after touching 34p yesterday, on speculative buying. This followed the weekend announcement that Maples had rejected a proposed £8.37m offer from a mystery bidder.

The offer, which Maples and *merchant bank advisers Morgan* Grenfell considered much too low, valued each ordinary share at 30p—21p in cash and 9p in shares. A 73p-a-share offer was also intended for Maple's 4.55 per cent cumulative preference shares.

Talks with the unnamed bidder, who was seeking approval from the Maple board, broke down over price. Adding to the mystery surrounding the potential bidder, was Maple's surprising decision to reject the bid before it has been officially launched.

Advisers, Morgan Grenfell, do not know whether the rejection will lead to a contested offer but a spokesman described their early rejection as a move "to retain the initiative".

Maple's results for the year to January 31 are expected to show pretax profits up from £1.03m to between £1.3m to £1.4m. On the rejected 30p-a-share offer, this would give a fully-taxed exit PE ratio of 13.2. Net asset value at February 3, 1979, was 14.5p a share.

City speculation on the possible suitor for Maples ranges over a number of companies in the retail sector.

At Waring & Gillow, Mr John Cussins, chairman, confirmed that Maples was a "business we'd be interested in", but would not confirm whether or not the two companies had recently been talking.

Land group boosted by buying from abroad

By Michael Clark

Overseas buyers pushed the price of Willoughby's Consolidated, a small London-based land-owning group, from 60p to 100p in a thin market yesterday.

The group has not paid a dividend since 1974 and the shares have not been dealt in for almost a year.

The group is 86.2 per cent owned by Lonrho and 10 per cent by South African Mutual Life Assurance. Willoughby's chairman, Lonrho chief executive Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, is in Africa.

*Observers believe that Lon*rho may well be attempting to buy the 13.8 per cent they do not already own, which at last night's price would cost around £248,000. The attraction of the group would be its *710,000* acres of ranch and farmland in and around the tribal areas of Marshonaland and Matebeland.

The theory is that it would matter little to Willoughby's who wins the Rhodesian election. All parties have said they will apportion more land for the use of black farmers.

Some sources believe that this would put Willoughby's in a position to make substantial profits from the sale of land. From the Cape, there are suggestions that they could be worth *£5 a share.*

Options

Bumper profits are expected from Shell later this week and investors were keen to try their luck ahead of the figures in traded options yesterday. Total contracts amounted to 898 of which Shell accounted for 265 with nearly all the series receiving inquiries.

Imperial Group came in for a bout of buying with the May 90p and August 80p series coming under the spotlight.

Interest elsewhere was fairly scattered although some healthy business continues to be reported by dealers in Cons Gold.

The new account provided a lively time for Traditional options. The latest fall in the gold price has sparked interest in gold shares where dealers are reported to have arranged several "puts".

Utd Glass chief pessimistic

United Glass, the United Kingdom's largest glass-container maker, which is jointly-owned by Distillers and Owens-Illinois, expects a difficult 1980.

"The forecast absence of real economic growth in the United Kingdom in 1980 and the high level of interest rates at the start of this year provide a poor base from which to project future results with optimsim", says chairman Mr J. M. Connell.

UG's profits fell by 27 per cent to £10.9m before tax in the year to December 1 last, mainly because of external strikes and a £605,000 rise in interest charges to £1.64m. Year-end net overdrafts jumped from £1.51m to £9.47m, reflecting a sharp rise in stocks and the heavy capital-spending programme which absorbed £13.5m.

UG has also payed its first dividend since 1971 to its joint owners. This cost £2.8m—well covered by historic cost profits, but not by *current-cost profits* which ran out at £1.49m before tax.

Warning on profits from Kennings Motor

The downward trend in profits at Kennings Motor Group which began in the Sep*tember quarter of last year has* continued into the current year, the first quarter producing a sharp fall in profit. Cost increases, combined with the sluggish economy, are taking *their toll, the chairman says in* his annual report. Efforts are being made to overcome the problems, but he cannot see that the results for the year will be anything other than bad. He adds, however, that he looks forward to an improvement next year.

Drake & Scull's strong cash position

Shareholders in Drake & Scull Holdings have seen the complete recovery of the group *in the past year with the com*pany showing, for the first time *in 10 years, a strong cash posi*tion.

In his chairman's review, accompanying the 1978-79 report and accounts, Mr Michael Abbott tells shareholders that the group's net current assets at October 31 1979 stood at £578,000, compared with net current liabilities of £1.4m at October 31 1978.

In addition, total cash balances which, includes mobilization payments for new contracts, amounted to £3.24m at the year-end, compared to £1.38m in 1978.

Since the year-end, an additional £900,000 has been received in respect of the sale of the group's interest in the Greyfriar's Centre at Ipswich. Moreover, with the present order book at a record level of £158m, Mr Abbott looks forward to a further strengthening of the group's cash resources in the current year.

Ben Williams's Bow Rd sale

The £210,000 proceeds from the sale of Ben Williams's Bow *Road, London,* premises, will be used to reduce secured bank borrowings, the board reports. On January 17 the group, wholesale clothing manufacturers, had secured bank borrowings of £322,000, being the group's *total* indebtedness. The conditions experienced in the first half year of lower margins and the effect of heavier interest rates on increased working capital requirements (which led to the fall in profits) have continued since the end of the first half and the board sees no likelihood of improvement at present.

Victor Products' lost exports

As forecast last October, the half-year results of Victor Products (Wellsend), makers of industrial and mining equipment, were hit by the engineering strike.

But pretax profits for the six months to October 31, 1979, managed to edge forward from £643,200 to £703,600 on turnover up from £4.55m to £4.7m. While it lasted, the strike *limited Victor's output to* almost 50 per cent of the expected level. As a direct result, the board warns, a number of valuable export opportunities were lost and cannot be *recovered. Home business, while* delayed, was not significantly affected in the longer-term. The interim dividend is being doubled to 2.14p gross, against 1.06p last time, but this reflects the board's policy of raising dividends broadly in line with *profits. Victor's board expects* the full year's results to show some growth, but the year will be mainly one of consolidation. Pretax profits for the year to April 30, 1979, reached a record £1.59m.

Rio Algom results reach $75m

Rio Algom, the Canadian mining and special steels company, raised profits last year to C$75.8m (£28.4m) from C$61.8m. Earnings per share rose to £$5.57 from C$4.53.

Pretax earnings from the Lornex molybdenum and copper mine in British Columbia were a lot higher. But steelmaking and distribution were down, while uranium mining showed a substantial decline in revenue.

Rio Algom, which is 52.8 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc, was recently amalgamated with Preston Mines, another RTZ interest. Preston's net earnings last year were C$32.8m.

Schering to purchase Liverpool health firm

The shareholders of Liverpool-based Prebbles Ltd and Prebbles Medical Ltd have reached agreement in principle *for the sale of the two com*panies to Schering Chemicals of Burgess Hill for an undisclosed sum, subject to contract.

Prebbles Medical, a family *company employing more than* 60 people, and selling disposable products to hospitals, is the United Kingdom market leader for—and a major exporter of—*alcohol-impregnated injection* swabs. The company also manufactures a range of sterile topical solutions widely used in United Kingdom hospitals.

Schering Chemicals is a *wholly-owned subsidiary* of Schering AG Berlin/Bergkamen and represents their United Kingdom interests in the fields of ethical pharmaceuticals, industrial chemicals and electroplating.

Notts Mfg sales ahead so far

Although Nottingham Manufacturing achieved record sales and profits in 1979, the current year has started against a background of increased uncertainty which is reflected in both trading and financial markets at home and abroad, warns Mr Harry Djanogly, the chairman, in his annual statement. But group sales are ahead of the similar period for last year and the group has a sound financial base. "This will produce, I hope, a year of further progress", says the chairman. Last year, capital expenditure on new buildings and machinery reached £8.02m, reflecting both an increase in productive capacity and the introduction of the most up-to-date plant.

After providing for capital expenditure, liquid resources rose from £30.62m to £38.16m at the year-end at which level they represent 63 per cent of share capital and retained profit, or 55p per share.

Dividend better than forecast at Ewer

By Our Financial Staff

George Ewer, the motor coach operator with its Grey Green Coaches and motor trade distributorships, pushed up profits, improved turnover in the full year and exceeded dividend forecast. But the figures are not strictly comparable with last year as the group changed its year-end *to fall in line with the* motor subsidiaries. The 1978 results are for nine months.

Pretax profits for the year ending September 30, 1979, rose by 12 per cent to £1.5m compared with the previous period while turnover improved by 18 per cent to £25.9m.

The final dividend of 2.7p gross gives a total of 3.42p gross with the interim of 0.71p. This is higher than the forecast figure of 3.2p, anticipated towards the end of the financial year by the chairman, Mr Henry Ewer.

But the group suffered from increased interest charges which jumped from £96,000 to £245,000. As a result of this sharp rise and as a possible defensive move against any possible bid from the Sunderland-based motor dealer, T. Cowie, which now holds a 29.9 per cent stake, the group has revalued its property.

The revaluation is £5.57m against the book values of £2.74m, giving a £2.83m surplus and £2.4m more than the previous valuation. These figures include properties which are surplus to the group's requirements and negotiations are at an advanced stage for their disposal for £1.4m.

"The group expects to benefit from the proceeds of the sales by reducing bank borrowings with commensurate interest savings," said Mr Ewer.

The share price fell 1p to 54½p, giving a 6.27 per cent yield.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Comeback for Blagden chemicals division

By Our Financial Staff

Blagden and Noakes (Holdings), the London-based casks to protective clothing group, will stage a come-back in chemicals next year.

In 1978, the chemical division lost £400,000, but the group slimmed down operations and now plans a £1.8m mechanized Formaldehyde plant — for making resins, fertilisers and disinfectants — by next May which should be highly profitable. Last year, Blagden's reorganization pushed the chemical making side to breakeven point, which, with a more buoyant chemical trading side helped lift group profits 14 per cent to £5.6m on a turnover 12 per cent ahead at £61.2m.

Mr J. K. Noakes, chairman of Blagden and Noakes.

The benefit from the new chemical plant could coincide with a substantial improvement in the protective clothing division. Last year its trading contribution rose from £391,000 to £474,000, and the chairman, Mr John Noakes, expects the profits to virtually double.

But the engineering strike took £100,000 from the group profits by slowing the growth rate of its plastics division and bringing down earnings from the group's biggest profit earner, casks and metal drums.

Even so, the plastics group, where the bulk of earnings still come from the two-year-old acquisition of W. & W. Ball, increased 20 per cent to £1.6m.

But the casks and drums, where Blagden makes metal containers for the chemical industry and wooden casks for the Scotch whisky companies, fell by £300,000 to slightly below £3m.

Blagden is raising the gross total dividend by nearly 15 per cent to 10.99p with a 6.71p second interim.

Opec members stay with US banks

International

In spite of some fears that the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan might inhibit bank lending to eastern Europe, Manufacturers Hanover, a leading American bank, said yesterday that response to syndication offers for a loan to Hungary has been good.

Mr Harry Taylor, vice-chairman of the Manufacturers Hanover board, also said that President Carter's attempts to freeze Iran's assets had not resulted in reluctance on the part of Opec members to deposit money with American banks.

"Our Opec deposits are better than ever", Mr Taylor said. But he agreed that Opec investors and others are showing more interest in currencies apart from the dollar. Deposits split between currencies had excited discussion.

Increased interest was also being shown in deposits denominated in Special Drawing Rights, the International Monetary Fund's artificial currency, but one drawback was the SDRs are not readily negotiable. Other "baskets" of currencies might also be attractive.

By implication, Mr Taylor took a fairly optimistic view of the dollar. He broadly supported the current monetary policy of Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board. Interest rates, as measured by the prime rate, are likely to remain at present levels until the middle of the year, after which they may ease. They will probably stay high for about 18 months, however.

Manufacturers Hanover, and other major New York banks, favour the idea of offshore banks in New York, to be known as International Banking Facilities. But strong opposition to the scheme has come from banks in Chicago and California.

Creusot-Loire

Turnover of the Creusot-Loire, the French heavy engineering and nuclear power group increased by 30 per cent last year to more than Fr16 billion from Fr12.4 billion in 1978, according to a company statement.

Exports accounted for 59 per cent of the total compared with 60 per cent a year earlier.

For the parent company alone, turnover was up 6 per cent to Fr6.009 billion.

Alusuisse investment

Schweizerische Aluminium, Alusuisse, plans to invest Fr250m over the next few years. The introduction of new technology in its Chippis and Steg works will enable environmental regulations to be met and an electrolysis furnace at Chippis will be replaced in part by an experimental research and development plant, which will produce 5,700 tonnes of an unchanged 27,800-tonne annual output.—Reuter.

Revlon—Continuous

Revlon of the United States has egreed in principle to acquire Continuous Curve Contact Lenses in a share exchange valued at about $85m. Under the proposed terms, each of the 1.7m shares of Continuous Curve will be exchanged for Revlon shares in a tax-free merger.—Reuter.

Wagons-Lits

CIE Internationale des Wagons-Lits et du Tourisme SA of Belgium says that net profit for 1979 should be about Fr 200m compared with Fr 109.4m in 1978.

It said that turnover excluding vat, rose by 9.7 per cent for the railway sector to Fr 7.58bn, 30 per cent for the hotel sector to Fr 1.29bn and 16 per cent to Fr 4.76bn in the restaurant sector.

Including vat the tourism sector turnover rose 16 per cent to Fr 20.5bn.

VW hopes to acquire Detroit missile plant

Volkswagen of America, the United States subsidiary of Volkswagenwerk AG, is "directing all efforts" to obtain a United States army missile plant near Detroit as Volkswagen's second United States assembly plant, a spokesman for the West German parent said.

He stressed that the missile plant site has not been officially approved by Volkswagen's supervisory board in Germany, but said that "the way is being cleared" for the United States subsidiary to obtain use of the army facility.

The Volkswagen spokesman in Germany said that "a statement of intent" has been presented to Michigan State authorities declaring Volkswagen of America's interest in the site and in state-assisted credits for converting the missile plant.

However, he declined to confirm a report by the West German economic news agency VWD that Michigan officials had indicated Volkswagen was seeking a $100m loan to finance conversion of the missile plant to car production.

Swedish banks are facing large cut in earnings

All the signs point to a much worse year for Swedish banks' earnings than in 1979, Svenska Handelsbanken says in its annual report.

The past year has been characterized by continued tight credit policies and banks have been subjected to a further tightening of their obligatory liquidity ratios and cash reserve requirements, it said.

Since sharply higher oil prices transformed a 1978 trade surplus into a large 1979 deficit, Swedish interest rates were forced upwards and the country's foreign borrowing increased.

The tightening of the domestic money market and the interest rate rise helped to put banks' profits on a weaker footing at the end of the year after they had been extremely good early in 1979, according to Svenska Handelsbanken.

Last year Handelsbanken had a consolidated net operating income of Kr 1.09bn crowns and total assets of Kr 67.2bn. It proposes a Kr 4.30 parent company ordinary dividend.

Brown Boveri profits drop

Brown Boveri and Company, the Swiss multinational say that its provisional figures for 1979 show a 9 per cent increase in turnover to about 8.8bn Swiss francs, rather than the 11 per cent rise earlier anticipated, and noted that cash flow is likely to be significantly below last year's Fr 579m.

The last quarter of 1979 must have been a difficult one, as in the first nine months it had registered a 14 per cent rise in group sales.

Incoming orders fell by 8 per cent to about Fr 8.8bn in 1979. Incoming orders in the first nine months had been up 4 per cent at Fr 6.526bn.

Lower profit margins and poorly utilized capacity had a negative impact on cash flow, and operations profit is expected to fall short of last year's Fr 204m.

Inquiry considered into Tenens dealings

By Peter Wainwright

The Stock Exchange was deciding last night whether to grant an inquiry into share dealings in Howard Tenens Services, the £10.2m Swindon-based packer and distributor which lost £268,000 before tax as recently as 1978-79.

In a fortnight the shares came up from 70p to 83p on Saturday. Yesterday morning they were suspended at 80p at Tenens's request pending an announcement. This turned out to be about an "approach".

Bid gossip began immediately Tenens sold lossmaking Willenhall Radiator to Armstrong Equipment in April last year. That put the group back in profits at a stroke. Mr John Swanborough, chairman, and formerly of Avon Rubber, left soon after.

Fingers have been pointing at Duple International, and former Slater associate Mr Ian Wasserman.

Mr David Llewellyn, formerly deputy chairman of English Property, has also been mentioned, along with Swiss nominees and Mr Stanley Van Gelder and Mr Jack Dellal, property men who used to be with Keyser Ullmann.

Finnish buyer for Bibby subsidiary

By Our Financial Staff

J. Bibby & Sons, the Liverpool-based agricultural feeds to vegetable oils group, is selling its subsidiary Henry Cooke Convertors for £900,000.

Bibby bought Cooke, which coats and finishes paper and cardboard, in November 1976 for £224,000. At that time the company was making losses of about £500,000. It was then known as The Clyde Paper Company.

Bibby has since spent around £700,000 and Cooke is now breaking even.

But Cooke's position in the market is seen as too much of an obstacle to achieving "an acceptable level of profitability".

The problem is that there is world over-capacity in extrusion coating. The buycar, Yhtynnet Paperitehtaat Oy (United Paper Mills) of Finland, currently exports the product to the United Kingdom, but the purchase of Cooke will allow it to export the paper and board and coat it here.

Cooke's future is seen as being safeguarded by the deal.

For Bibby to move represents a continuation of its policy of moving away from high-volume, low-value added products towards higher technology areas. The company recently paid £4.4m for the outstanding 60 per cent it did not already own of Sterilin, a laboratory goods manufacturer.

Bibby shares closed unchanged at 166p yesterday.

Plea for spending cuts

By Our Financial taff

Further cuts in public spending to allow an eary fall in interest rates and major changes in the evel of direct and capital taxation form the core of the Institute of Directors' Budget submissions.

In a letter to Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the IoD chairman, Mr Walter Goldsmith, warns of the serious damage which the continuing high level of interest rates is having particularly on small businesses. Wile re-affirming IoD support for the Government's policies, Mr Goldsmith says that reducing interest rates by cutting public spending must take priority over tax cuts.

On fiscal policy, the IoD recommends further progress towards a 25 per cent basic rate of income tax and a top marginal rate of 50 per cent.

Milford Docks rights issue planned

By Rosemary Unsworth

Milford Docks chairman Mr Charles Smith, who fought off proposed board changes from a group of dissident shareholders earlier this year, has issued some details of plans for the group's development.

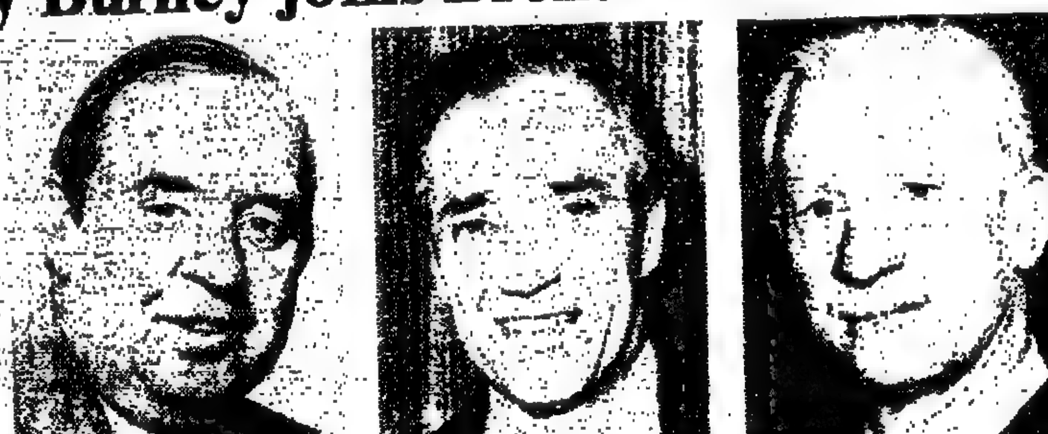
In a letter to shareholders, he said that a rights issue is planned, although shareholders will first have to approve an increase in issued capital at the next annual meeting. "The proceeds of the rights issue are intended in principle to improve the existing docks services and facilities which it is hoped will sustain the company's revenue expectations and increase general cargo traffic without interfering with fishing activities."

The plans include the development of an additional wharf for heavier cargo. Milford is also planning diversification over the next five years in its land-based activities for which it needs parliamentary approval as it is a statutory company.

As part of the work required for the lodging of a parliamentary Bill, Milford is examining the location and identification of likely users of the new facilities

Business appointments

Sir Anthony Burney joins Brent Walker



Mr David Booth (left), Mr David Boult and Mr Harry Woolley of BICC.

Sir Anthony Burney has joined the board of Brent Walker and will be appointed chairman on July 17, when he retires as chairman of Debenhams. He will remain on the Debenhams board as a non-executive director.

Mr David H. Booth has become group director of BICC Cables, service cables group. Mr David Boult is to become group director of the metals group. Mr Harry C. Woolley remains group director, general cables group.

Mr R. L. Wyatt has been appointed corporate finance director in charge of aerospace finance activities at Midland Bank International.

Mr P. J. Pressles and Mr D. Watson have been appointed to the board of Holt Whitney.

Mr Peter Meyer has been appointed vice chairman of Federated Land and Building Co.

Mr Frank Hatten has joined the board of Sangers Group.

Mr John E. Fletcher and Mr Frederick G. Lane have been appointed to the board of Marshall's Universal.

Mr Peter Reid has joined the board of Saccone & Speed Retail as marketing director.

Mr J. F. Chown and Mr G. R. McNeill have joined the board of Reserve Asset Managers.

Mr Clive G. Stone has become chairman and chief executive of Dollond & Aitchison Group and chairman of Dollond International. Mr Stanley J. Rowland becomes deputy chairman of Dollond & Aitchison Group.

Mr C. G. Dummer has joined the board of Sears Engineering as chief executive.

Mr Hamish MacGregor has been appointed deputy director of the Confederation of British Industry in Scotland.

New members appointed to the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development are: Dr D. L. Georgala, head of laboratory, Unilever research; Professor W. B. Heginbotham, director-general, Production Engineering Research Association; Dr B. C. Lindley, director of research, Dunlop; Sir Alec Merrison, vice-chancellor, University of Bristol and chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils; Mr A. M. Muir Wood, senior partner, Sir William Halcrow & Partners; and Mr J. L. van der Post, chief executive, Water Research Centre.

Mr J. W. Glanville has been appointed a director of Lazard Brothers & Co.

Mr David W. Elliott has been appointed managing director of Rowenta (UK).

Mr Barrie Birch and Mr Brian Sumner have been appointed to the board of Alex Lawrie Factors.

Mr Derek Wright has been appointed managing director of Keystone Cannon.

Mr W. J. C. Donie has been appointed a non-executive director of British Benzol Carbonising.

Mr Philip Main has been appointed a director of Bootham Engineers.

Mr Michael B. Saint has been appointed financial director of Ferguson Industrial Holdings.

Mr Stephen La Brooy is now a director of E. D. & F. Man (Coffee).

Mr James Miller and Mr Harold E. Smith have been appointed directors of the Sabah Timber Co.

Mr Michael John Hedley and Mr David John Ferdinand have been appointed directors of Astaire & Co with effect from March 31.

Mr Norman Siddall, deputy chairman of the NCB, has been appointed as chairman of the National Economic Development Office's mining machinery sector working party.

Australian mining draws world interest

By Michael Prest

Foreign interest in Australian mining continues to mount.

Finsider, the Italian steelmaker, has acquired a 7.5 per cent stake in the Okay Creek coal mine in central Queensland.

Marubeni, the Japanese trading house, is paying A$4.1m for a stake in another coal producer.

At the same time, one of France's leading banks, Société Générale, announced that it has bought 30 per cent of Trade Credits, an Australian investment house with mining interests.

The two companies will set up a merchant bank to be called Societe Generale Australia. The bank, whose capital will be evenly divided, is to be capitalized at A$10m.

Last week Marubeni also purchased 25 per cent of the coal-mining rights controlled by Silver Valley Minerals. The Japanese company said then that it would supply 250,000 tonnes of coal a year to cement and paper makers in Japan, for 15 years from 1982.

Most of the major Australian coal producers have recently completed long-term supply contracts with Japanese steel mills at much improved prices. Some market sources expect that coal could reach A$50 a tonne before long.

The trend is confirmed by two sets of mining-company results. Although the lower coal prices which prevailed for much of last year caused Oakbridge's pre-tax profits to fall from A$2.88m in the six months to the end of 1979 to A$2.64m, the company says that the increase over the A$1.54m earned in the first half of last year points to good results to come.

Half-year figures have also been issued by BH South. Pre-tax operating profits were A$4.72m, compared with a loss of A$2.58m in the same period of 1978. In addition, BH South made extraordinary profits of A$2.71m, of which A$2.51m came from the sale of the stake in EZ Industries.

ter results to higher lead, silver, zinc and copper prices. But the directors say they will wait for the full figures before deciding on their dividend policy. No dividends have been paid since 1974.

Higher tin prices were also a material factor at Oakbridge.

MARKET REPORTS

Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on an extremely large scale to relieve the shortage of funds on Lombard Street yesterday. Large Treasury Bill purchases, both from banks and houses, were the principal part of the package with which the authorities gave assistance. In addition, the Bank bought a small number of local authority bills and a small quantity of eligible bank bills from the houses. Six or seven houses took overnight loans at MLR.

The major factor in these tight conditions was the excess of tax transfers over Exchequer disbursements as petroleum revenue tax fell due. There was also a moderate net Treasury bill take-up. There was some offset in note circulation, and monies arising from the redemption of 9 per cent Treasury convertible stock 1980.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 17%
(Last changed 15/11/79)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 17%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 17 Low 16½
Week Fixed 17

Treasury Bills (Dis%)
Buying: 2 months [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]
Selling: 2 months [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)
2 months [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]; 4 months [illegible]; 6 months [illegible]
3 months 18; 4 months [illegible]; 6 months [illegible]

Local Authority Bonds
1 month [illegible]; 2 months [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]; 4 months [illegible]; 5 months [illegible]; 6 months [illegible]
7 months [illegible]; 8 months [illegible]; 9 months [illegible]; 10 months [illegible]; 11 months [illegible]; 12 months [illegible]

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)
1 month [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]; 6 months [illegible]; 12 months [illegible]

Local Authority Market (%)
2 days [illegible]; 7 days [illegible]; 1 month [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]; 6 months 18; 1 year [illegible]

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open [illegible] Close 17
1 week [illegible]; 1 month [illegible]; 3 months [illegible]; 6 months [illegible]; 9 months [illegible]; 12 months [illegible]

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)
3 months 19; 6 months [illegible]

Finance House Base Rate 17%

Castro's sugar call

Havana, March 3.—President Fidel Castro has called for emergency action to save what is left of Cuba's disease-hit sugar harvest, official reports said. He forecast last December that Cuba would lose one million tonnes of sugar this season because of sugar rust and other problems.

The emergency must extend into May and June when new cane will be sown to replace part of that destroyed by rust.

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes except silver) were: copper rose 1,550 to 117,175; tin rose 135 to 4,325; lead fell 2,400 to 8,900; zinc fell 1,050 to 46,750; aluminium rose 250 to 34,175; nickel rose 366 to 7,224; silver rose 1,130,000 to 13,230,000 troy ounces.

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Berkeley Explor In £1 Ord (£1g)	[illegible]
Bio-Isl Chem 10p Ord (70)	[illegible]
Exchequer 13½% 1983 (£96¼)	[illegible]
Exchequer 14% 1984 (£98)	[illegible]
Haynes Pub Ord (120)	[illegible]
Keep Int Tst 5p Ord (10)	11
Spring Grove Ord (70)	84-1
Treasury 14% 1998-01 (…)	[illegible]
Treasury 14% 1998 (£95½)	[illegible]
Treasury 13½% A 2000-03 (£91½)	[illegible]

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £20 paid. ‡ Fully paid. g 30p paid. h £40 paid.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Crdts	17%
C. Hoare & Co	*17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £25,000 15¼%, over £25,000 15¾%.

Zinc consumption outlook gives little cause for comfort

Problems facing the world zinc industry are structural, rather than cyclical. They derive from a surplus of smelting capacity in relation to demand for zinc and in relation to mine capacity. Zinc smelters are unlikely to see a return to acceptable profitability at any time in the 1980s without some reduction in present and planned smelting capacity.

This is the main conclusion to emerge from an exhaustive analysis of the outlook for zinc in the 1980s undertaken by Commodities Research Unit and contained in a report sponsored by major zinc producers, government agencies and international organizations in Europe, North America and Japan.

The report says that growth rates in both zinc smelter capacity and zinc mine capacity will be lower than in the past, with surplus of the former over the latter diminishing slowly.

Concentrate treatment charges will rise, but only in line with smelting costs. Changes in the capacity-demand balance in the industry will be only moderate in scale. Extreme price movements reflecting the peaks and troughs in the cycles are therefore not likely.

The report tackles the central question facing the zinc industry: whether the problems it has experienced since 1975 are structural, in which case the cure is to be found in positive measures to rationalize it; or whether they are cyclical, in which case they will *disappear with the next recovery* in demand.

Although CRU sees the industry's problems as structural it does not believe that market forces alone will force rationalization upon it. Industry groups and governments may have to play an active role. The closure of the Monaca plant of St Joe Zinc was announced after CRU had reached these conclusions, but this closure alone will not remove the structural surplus.

The report finds that the crisis has been uneven in its impact, with custom smelters and the zinc industries of Japan, the United States and western Europe bearing the brunt of weak demand.

This becomes apparent from CRU's analysis of zinc mines which shows that, in 1978, more than 80 per cent of non-socialist zinc mine capacity covered its operating costs while more than 95 per cent broke even at average 1979 prices.

Meanwhile, "typical" electrolytic refineries in Europe, the United States and Japan were unable to cover their operating expenses in 1978, although Imperial Smelting plants appear to have fared better.

The report comments that the outlook for consumption gives little cause for comfort. Investigations by CRU show that the world economy is steadily becoming less zinc intensive. Moreover, the price appears to play a relatively unimportant role in determining zinc consumption levels.

Technical changes and materials savings are more important influences. Consumption growth rates are therefore forecast to fall well below the average 2.6 per cent per annum of the 1962-78 period.

No rapid growth of zinc consumption in galvanizing is forecast, except in some less developed countries, because the construction industry is the main consumer of galvanized products and, as economies develop, they become less construction-intensive.

Tin stalemate. Tin prices rose sharply last week after the meeting in London of the International Tin Council, which had been called to discuss the United States plan to release tin from its stockpile, and the producers' demand for an increase in the price range under the International Tin Agreement, had ended inconclusively.

The United States told other members of the Tin Council in January of plans to dispose of 10,000 long tons of tin *annually for three years*, at a rate of 500 tons per fortnight, and had been aiming at March 11 as the date to start selling.

The response of the producers has been to make counter proposals on the timing, quantities and mechanics and pricing of the sales. A figure of 200 tons per fortnight has been mooted at rates related to current market prices. Further, the United States has been urged to honour its commitment not to disturb the market.

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Wall Street

New York, March 3.—Stocks turned narrowly lower in active trading this morning after being mixed earlier. Popular averages were weak and declines took a small lead over advances.

Bank stocks eased as investors awaited further interest rate increases. Citicorp lost ⅜ to 19⅞ including a block of 547,500 shares at 19⅞. Bank America dipped ⅛ to 21⅞. Chase Manhattan ⅜ to 35 and Chemical New York ¼ to 37 3/7.

Sundance Oil lost 2½ to 93½. It hired an investment advisers to aid in its search for added capital, which it said could include a merger.

February 29: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 8.7 points up at 863.14.

Commodities

COPPER was steady at the lower levels.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £1186-88 a metric ton; three months, £1202-1203. Sales, 6,350. Cash cathodes, £1155-57; three months, £1168-69. Sales, 2,000 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £1193-94; three months, £1210-11. Settlement, £1194. Sales, 7,458 tons. Cash cathodes, £1146-47; three months, £1178-79. Settlement, £1147. Sales, 350 tons.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £7900-20 a tonne; three months, £7960-70. Sales, 245 tonnes. High grade, cash £7900-20; three months £7960-80. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £7890-7900; three months £7930-40. Settlement, £7900. Sales, 1,016 tonnes. High grade, cash £7890-7900; three months, £7930-60. Settlement, £7900. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, SM2336 a picul.

LEAD was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash £574-84 per tonne, three months £307-309. Sales, 3,400 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £585-88; three months £516-17. Settlement £588. Sales, 6,150 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £388-91 per tonne; three months £398-99. Sales, 1,000 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £389.90; three months £397.98. Settlement, £390. Sales, 775 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £402.95 ($905) a troy ounce.

SILVER was barely steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 1551.40p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 3475); three months 1575.95p (3522.50c); six months, 1588p (3567c); one year 1606.45p (3592.30c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 1585.43p; three months 1560.3dp. Sales, 44 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 1530-40p; three months, 1545-1605p. Settlement, 1560p. Sales, 145 lots.

ALUMINIUM was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £929-31 per metric ton; three months, £944-45. Sales, 1,700 tons. Morning.—Cash, £931-33; three months, £947-48. Settlement, £933. Sales, 3,122 tons.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £3,160-65 per tonne; three months, £3,260-65. Sales, 228 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £3,160-70; three months, £3,255-60. Settlement, £3,170. Sales, 321 tonnes.

RUBBER was quiet and slightly easier (pence per kilo): April, 75.50-76.75; May, 77-77.70; April-June, 77.40-77.50; July-Sept, 80.30-80.45; Oct-Dec, 83.40-86.00; Jan-March, 88.45-88.50; April-June, 90.90-90.95; July-Sept, 93.30-93.40; Oct-Dec, 95.30-96.00. Sales, 346 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot, 74.76. Cifs, April, 76-76.75; May 78-78.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March, 1,739-40; May 1,672-74; July, 1,644-45; Sept 1,698-1,700; Nov, 1,695-1,700; Jan, 1,683-1,710; March, 1,665-75. Sales: 5,601 lots including 42 options.

COCOA was steady (£ per metric ton): March, 1,377-79; May, 1,408-09; July, 1,433-34; Sept, 1,458-59; Dec, 1,496-97; March, 1,518-27; May, 1,541-53. Sales: 3,789 lots including four options. ICCO prices: daily (Feb 29): 139.85c; indicator prices (March 3): 15-day average, 146.03c; 22-day average, 146.80c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £28 higher at £250; the "whites" price was £30 higher at £283. Futures (£ per tonne): Old contract (irregular): March, 269-70; May, 287.75-88.00; Aug, 299-300; Oct, 304.30-05.00. Sales, 10,438 lots. New contract (quiet): May, 287-87.30; Aug, 299.50-301.30; Oct, 307.80-08.00; Jan, 307-08; March, 313-16; May, 317-19. Sales, 390 lots. ISA prices (Feb 29): daily, 21.29c; 15-day average, 23.30c. White sugar was quiet. April 270.00 buyer only; rest unquoted. Sales, 10 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL was steady (£ per tonne): April, 110-10.30; Jan, 110.30-10.40; Aug, 112.20-12.30; Oct, 111.80-12.30; Dec, 114.80-13.00; Feb, 117.30-18.30; April, 118.70-20.50. Sales, 136 lots.

WOOL.—Greasy futures (pence per kilo): Australian (quiet): March, 250-63; May, 259-70; July, 273-90; Oct, 273-90; Dec, March, May, July, 276-83. Sales, nil. New Zealand Crossbreds (quiet): March, 165-300; rest unquoted. Sales, nil. NZ Crossbreds No 3 contract, cents per kilo (quietly steady): May, 409-412; Aug, 423-24; Oct, 431-425; Dec, 424-426; Jan, 423-425; March, 427-440; May, 430-435; Aug, 433-438. Sales, 22 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: March, £98; April-May, £96; June, £97.30 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter unquoted. EEC unquoted.

MAIZE.—US French: March, £116.50; April, £117.75 quoted, trans-shipment east coast. South African white unquoted. South African yellow: April, £75.30.

BARLEY.—English feed fob, March, £99.50; April, £100.50; April-June, £101.50 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was barely steady: March, £92.15; May, £96; Sept, £92.10; Nov, £96.20; Jan, £100.20. Sales, 216 lots. **WHEAT** was barely steady: March, £95.35; May, £97.45; Sept, £94.55; Nov, £98.35; Jan, £102.35. Sales, 335 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	£95.60	£94.20	£93.00
E Midlands	£98.50	£93.90	£95.60
N East	—	—	£96.00
Scotland	—	£100.00	£93.10

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 3.—GB cattle 80.63p per kg lw (+0.83). UK sheep 164.9p per kg est d c w (+7.2). GB pigs 68.5p per kg lw (+2.2). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 6.5 per cent, average price 81.00p (+0.82). Sheep numbers up 5.4 per cent, average price 164.2p (+5.1). Pig numbers up 3.8 per cent, average price 68.5p (+3.3). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 4.6 per cent, average 78.99p (+1.01). Sheep numbers up 10.6 per cent, average price 163.6p (+12.3). Pig numbers up 4.1 per cent, average price 68.9p (+0.6).

TEA.—There was a good and general demand at the weekly auction. Assam initially met selective inquiry with plainer sorts 2p to 4p per kilo lower, but later were generally fully firm to dearer. Sylhets were well supported at often lower rates but selected brighter lines closed dearer. Bright Africans were a strong feature and gained several pence. Mediums were irregular but closed firm to dearer. Plain central Africans were generally easier. There was improved general demand for teas from Sri Lanka with all descriptions firm to dearer. Brighter teas were a strong feature and were dearer. Demand was quite good in general for south Indian teas with clean leaves. Useful liquoring lines were dearer, while poorer descriptions were easier. The highest price realised was 215p for an Assam shop.

'Concrete' cocoa measures

Accra, March 1.—The 10-nation Cocoa Producers' Alliance has announced that it has decided on "concrete measures" to protect the interests of producers on world markets.

But the statement, issued at the end of the Alliance's 34th general assembly, gave no details of the measures and left open the question of whether the producers had decided to set up a support fund for cocoa prices.

Conference sources hinted that producers were awaiting the outcome of consultations with consumers before making a final decision on whether to go ahead with the fund. The executive committee of the Alliance reached agreement "in principle" on the fund at its meeting in Abidjan in December.

The Alliance expressed great concern over the failure of last year's United Nations cocoa conference to reach a new international cocoa agreement. The present agreement expires at the end of this month.

Last year's talks failed when consumers rejected a minimum intervention price of 120 cents a pound.

Foreign exchange report

Sterling fell by more than 3 cents on foreign exchanges yesterday as the dollar continued to benefit from Friday's move to record prime rates. At the close, the pound was down to 2.2420 against the dollar, compared with 2.2730 Friday night. The effective exchange rate index fell 0.6 to 72.6.

Sterling was down from the outset, but only really started to come under pressure in the afternoon with the opening of New York markets.

The dollar extended Friday's gain at the expense of continental currencies. German marks fell, down 1.7765 to 1.7835. Swiss francs dipped from 1.7020 to 1.7155, and French francs weakened from 4.1580 to 4.1795. The Bundesbank sold almost $54m in Frankfurt in the morning when the dollar was fixed at its best level since mid-November. The yen strengthened from 251.50 to 247.725 behind the weekend package of support measures.

Sterling Spot and Forward

[illegible]

Sterling: Other Markets

[illegible]

Dollar Spot Rates

[illegible]

EMS European Currency Rates

[illegible]

Gold

[illegible]

Euro-$ Deposits

[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

هكذا من الاصل

Stock Exchange Prices

Little selling

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 25. Dealings End, March 7. § Contango Day, March 10. Settlement Day, March 17

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

1979/80 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
14½	7⅜	Algoma Cen Rly	19½	+½	26.0	2.3	14.5
[illegible]	41	Calcutta Elec	45	..	[illegible]	[illegible]	..
49½	41	E Surr Wtr 4.9%	41½	..	490	[illegible]	..
35½	30	Essex Wtr 3.5%	31	..	350	[illegible]	..
24	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£10	..	142	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	358	Imp Cont Gas	148	+2	25	[illegible]	[illegible]
213	125	Milford Docks	140	+5	8.0b	5.7	9.5
[illegible]	81¼	Nesco Ins	[illegible]	..	9.0	8.1	..
35½	29	Sunderlnd Wtr	130½	..	350	[illegible]	..

e Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

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CONTINENTAL POTTERY AND PORCELAIN *Cat. (59 illus.) £2.75*

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Thursday 6th March at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
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SELECTED WATERCOLOURS & DRAWINGS incl. works by J. Faulkner; W. Russell-Flint; C. D. Barraud; C. Dixon; C. Vacher; S. Owen; F. H. Mason; T. B. Hardy. Illust. cat. 75p.

Thursday, 6th March at 11 a.m.
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Thursday, 6th March at 2.30 p.m.
GOOD ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL FURNITURE incl. Geo. III inlaid secretaire bookcase; Napoleon III vernis Martin breakfront cabinet; small Geo. III secretaire bureau bookcase; early 18th C. Dutch marquetry armoire; mid 19th C. tulipwood marquetry suite; 18th C. Dutch marquetry gothic style desk; 18th C. Irish Chippendale commode; Geo. III set of 7 dining chairs. Illust. Cat £1.50

Friday, 7th March at 11 a.m.
PORCELAIN & WORKS OF ART. Cat. 30p.

Friday, 7th March at 11 a.m.
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Wednesday, 12th March, at 10.30 a.m.
ENGLISH & FOREIGN COINS
in gold, silver and copper
also a good series of COMMEMORATIVE and other MEDALS
(Illustrated Catalogue (2 Plates)—Price £1)

Wednesday, 23rd April
ENGLISH & FOREIGN COINS
in gold, silver and copper
(Illustrated Catalogue (now in course of preparation)—Price £1)

Wednesday, 30th April
ANCIENT GREEK, ROMAN & BYZANTINE COINS
in gold, silver and bronze
(Illustrated Catalogue (now in course of preparation)—Price £1)

Wednesday, 21st May
ENGLISH & FOREIGN COINS
in gold, silver and bronze
(Illustrated Catalogue (now in course of preparation)—Price £1)

Thursday, 29th May
A Collection of
BRITISH ORDERS, DECORATIONS & MEDALS
(Catalogue (now in course of preparation)—Price 50p)

Catalogues for further Sales of Coins and Medals to be held in the Summer Season are now in course of preparation. Collectors desirous of selling should contact Glendining & Co. promptly. Vendors' Commission of 10% open to negotiation on Collections of high value. CASH ADVANCES readily available. Commission NOT charged to Buyers.

Salerooms and Antiques are featured every Tuesday

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Readers are strongly advised to seek legal advice before parting with any money or signing any agreement to acquire land or property overseas.

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We will be in London March 8-12 at the Intl. Council of Shopping Centre's European Conference. As the largest real estate brokerage firm in Texas, we can provide a substantial inventory of property available for sale or arrange for the sale of existing income property in your portfolio. We also welcome equity partners for new or existing income producing property. Contact Sam Kartalis, Hyde Park Hotel; David Claassen or Steve Schafer, London Hilton.
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ORIENTAL & OTHER CARPETS & RUGS
Wednesday, March 5th at 10 am

ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE
Wednesday, March 5th, at 10.45 am

OBJETS D'ART, etc
Thursday, March 6th at 10 am
View today 9 am to 4.30 pm

OIL PAINTINGS WATERCOLOURS & PRINTS
at 2 pm on Thursday, March 6th
Works by or attributed to Mario Berrino, Bradley Carter, G. Chester, F. S. Dobbs, G. Fowler, Monaciun Cuellun, R. Quintaine, Alfred Sohn Rethal, Igor Talwinski and many others.
View today 9 am to 4.30 pm.

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Phillips
Tuesday, 4 March, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART

Wednesday, 5 March, 11 a.m.
JAPANESE & CHINESE CERAMICS & WORKS OF ART
Illus. catalogue £2.38 by post

Wednesday, 5 March, 12 noon
COLLECTORS' ITEMS
Illus. catalogue 77p by post

Wednesday, 5 March, 2 p.m.
ARMS AND ARMOUR

Thursday, 6 March, 11 a.m.
ART NOUVEAU & DECORATIVE ARTS
Illus. catalogue £1.82 by post

Thursday, 6 March, 11 a.m.
SPECIALISED GREAT BRITAIN POSTAGE STAMPS
Illus. catalogue 83p by post

Thursday, 6 March, 1.30 p.m.
BOOKS, MSS. & MAPS

Friday, 7 March, 11 a.m.
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL SILVER & PLATE
Illus. catalogue £2.38 by post

Monday, 10 March, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE EASTERN CARPETS & OBJECTS

Tuesday, 11 March, 11 a.m.
FURNITURE, EASTERN CARPETS & WORKS OF ART

Tuesday, 11 March, 11 a.m.
FINE OLD MASTER PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS
Illus. catalogue £3.00 by post

Tuesday, 11 March, 1.30 p.m.
ANTIQUE & MODERN JEWELLERY

PHILLIPS WEST 2
10 SALEM RD., LONDON, W.2
Thursday, 6 March, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN & WORKS OF ART
View: Wednesday 9 am-7 pm

PHILLIPS MARYLEBONE
HAYES PL., LONDON, N.W.1
Friday, 7 March, 10 a.m.
FURNITURE, PORCELAIN & OBJECTS Followed by PICTURES
View: Thursday 9 am-5 pm

PHILLIPS AT HEPPER HOUSE
17a EAST PARADE, LEEDS
Wednesday, 5 March
ANTIQUE & MODERN SILVER & JEWELLERY
Illus. catalogue £1.00 by post

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Phillips principal saleroom at
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NOTICE
All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

Christie's
1766
8 King Street, St James's
London SW1Y 6QT. Tel: 01-839 9060
Telex 916429 Telegrams CHRISTIART London SW1

Today, Tuesday, March 4 at 10.30 a.m.
MODERN PRINTS. Catalogue £2.25.

Tuesday, March 4 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
JAPANESE IVORY CARVINGS, NETSUKE AND INRO. Catalogue £1.75.

Wednesday, March 5 at 10.30 a.m.
FINE SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS, CLOCKS AND WATCHES. Catalogue £2.05.

Wednesday, March 5 at 11 a.m.
RUSSIAN AND GREEK ICONS. Catalogue £1.20.

Thursday, March 6 at 11 a.m.
VINTAGE PORT, MADEIRA AND COGNAC. Catalogue 55p.

Thursday, March 6 at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
FINE CONTINENTAL FURNITURE, TAPESTRIES, EASTERN RUGS AND CARPETS. Catalogue £2.75.

Friday, March 7 at 11 a.m.
FINE OLD MASTER PICTURES. Catalogue £1.85.

Monday, March 10 at 11 a.m.
CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN AND WORKS OF ART. Catalogue £3.25.

Tuesday, March 11 at 10.30 a.m.
FINE JAPANESE CERAMICS, LACQUER AND BRONZES. Catalogue £2.75.

Tuesday, March 11 at 11 a.m.
ENGLISH DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS. Catalogue £1.45.

SUNDAY VIEW
Christie's will be open on Sunday, March 23 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for a special view of Impressionist and Modern Paintings, Watercolours, Drawings and Sculpture.

OVERSEAS SALES
IN ROME
AT THE PALAZZO MASSIMO LANCELLOTTI
Thursday, March 20 at 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
FINE PICTURES, DRAWINGS AND PRINTS. Catalogue £2.

IN HOLLAND
AT THE SINGER MUSEUM, LAREN
Monday, March 24 at 10.30 a.m., 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.
FINE PICTURES, DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS FROM THE 16TH TO 20TH CENTURIES. Catalogue £3.50.

The following sales are incorporated in one catalogue, price £3.50, code name Irene:
Tuesday, March 25 at 10.30 a.m.
DUTCH TILES AND TILE PICTURES.
Tuesday, March 25 at 2.30 p.m.
EUROPEAN CERAMICS, ART NOUVEAU AND ART DECO.
Wednesday, March 26 at 10.30 a.m.
DELFTWARE, ASIATIC CERAMICS AND GLASS.
Wednesday, March 26 at 2.30 p.m.
ASIATIC CERAMICS.

The following sales are incorporated in one catalogue, price £3.50, code name Chris:
Tuesday, March 25 at 7.30 p.m.
DUTCH SILVER.
Thursday, March 27 at 10.30 a.m.
METALWORK.
Thursday, March 27 at 2.30 p.m.
CLOCKS, SCULPTURE AND OBJECTS OF ART.
Thursday, March 27 at 7.30 p.m.
JEWELLERY.
Friday, March 28 at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
RUGS AND FURNITURE.
Wednesday, March 26 at 7.30 p.m.
IMPORTANT CHINESE AND JAPANESE CERAMICS. Catalogue £5.

All catalogue prices are post paid.
All sales subject to the conditions printed in the *catalogue*.
For details of sales at Christie's South Kensington, please contact them at: Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London, SW7. Tel.: (01) 581 2231

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In return we offer a salary of not less than £3,760 pa at 18 (increasing considerably with age and experience), 5 weeks' holiday, LVs, season ticket loan scheme and the opportunity to join a team of highly professional staff at the Head Office of a large International organisation. If you feel you can match our requirements, please contact:
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A CAREER that's a happy mixture of interviewing and administration for anyone seeking a purposeful job with people, as a Trainee Interviewer with Covent Garden Bureau. More details from David Fisher or Marjorie Undale on 01-353 7696 at 53 Fleet Street, E.C.4.

FICTION EDITOR SEC. for leading weekly women's magazine. Could be college leaver. Also organize short story competitions. £4,300. Covent Garden Bureau, 53 Fleet Street, E.C.4. 01-353 7696.

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Assist major shareholder run European/London operations of worldwide commodities company. Set up personnel systems, handle executives' travel and become a "right hand". Utilize secretarial skills, but business acumen more important.
Call Judy Knapp on 405 0854 for details. Drake Executive Secretaries (Consultants) 121 Kingsway, WC2.

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We publish hardback books on practical subjects such as cookery, photography, gardening, antiques and do-it-yourself.
Our Marketing Manager needs a bright assistant with secretarial skills to help both in the organisation of the office, and in the implementation of marketing schemes for our books. This would be a good job for someone just starting in publishing who wants to learn more about how books are created and sold. Good typing, numeracy and literacy are essential.
PLEASE RING ANNETTE GAVIN-TAYLOR ON 439 0558

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Good at getting people together? Organize worldwide conferences for two busy executives. Good office experience and ability to operate under pressure are what you need for this rewarding position. Call NATASHA BERNARD on 734 7186 for more details. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS).

SECRETARY needed for new business magazine being launched by the National Magazine Company Ltd. In order to set up the advertisement department, the associate publisher needs someone with initiative, a bright personality and ability to handle many different and interesting assignments. Good shorthand, typing and audio essential. New pleasant modern offices in W.1.—Please ring Beverley Flower on 439 0558.

MULTI-LINGUAL Receptionist wanted part-time for Harley Street practice.—487 5177

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CROSSWORD COMPILER for medical magazine, details back page. Samples to: Jerry Cowhig, General Practitioner, 76 Dean Street London W.1

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Sally Kinghorn and Ashley Barker as star-crossed lovers in Leave It to Charlie (ITV, 8.30)

● It would be almost *impossible to overpraise David* Attenborough's breathtaking documentary series Life on Earth (BBC 1, 7.35). I must confess to being one of the apparently few television viewers who do not particularly care for natural history programmes, but when this series was shown on BBC 2 it held me firmly in its spell. The subject is a large one, but David Attenborough and the BBC Natural History Unit have the ability *to match it. The camerawork is stunning, while Attenborough's* methodical and (literally) matter-of-fact commentary manages to combine a satisfying explanation of the complex evolutionary processes with an almost childlike sense of wonder. The first part is an inquiry into why forms of life are so incredibly diverse. Incidentally, I can recommend the BBC book that accompanies the series.

● The Brinsworth Tribute Show (ITV, 10.30) is a star-studded celebration of the first award of the Brinsworth Scroll for outstanding charitable services to entertainment. (The honour, presented by the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund, is named *after Brinsworth House, a charitable home for ex-showbiz* people at Twickenham, Middlesex.) Eamonn Andrews will read the citation accompanying the award and it will be presented by Lord Delfont. Up-and-coming comic Jim Davidson hosts the show and the cabaret would be worth watching for Manhattan Transfer alone, though it also includes Lulu and impressionist Paul Melba.

● My support for the children's series Grange Hill, about life in a comprehensive school, has not been greeted with universal approval by parents. Presumably the BBC has also had an ear-bashing, because The Great Grange Hill Debate (BBC 1, 5.10) is an attempt to air the controversy which has arisen over the serial story watched by 8,000,000 children and at least a couple of million adults. *The two sides confront each other with Toni* Arthur and Paul Burden as referees.

● It is always interesting to hear a writer's view of the environment that has shaped his thinking, so I look forward to a new series called *Writers and Places (BBC 2, 8.30). First on is* Brian Moore (The Luck of Ginger Coffey, Catholics, etc), who talks about his native Ireland—and now lives in California.

● In case you missed it on Sunday, part one of a new serialization of Women in Love, D. H. Lawrence's most popular and possibly best novel, is repeated on Radio 4 today at 3.15—part of the BBC's tribute on the 50th anniversary *of Lawrence's death.*

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN : †STEREO ; *BLACK AND WHITE ; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by David Sinclair

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Newton's *Present-day Success.* 7.05 *Diffraction: Structure Determination.* 7.30 Rocks and Magnets. Close down at 7.55.
9.35 For Schools, Colleges : Out of the Past (r). 9.58 Mathematics-in-a-Box. 10.16 Look and Read (The Boy from Space). 10.38 Resource Units (English). 11.00 Watch (Early Life). 11.17 Television Club (r). 11.38 Shakespeare in Perspective (Henry V). 12.05 pm General Studies (r). Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Including Family Matters and Painting Made Easy.
1.45 Trumpton : Puppet series (r).
2.00 You and Me: Neighbours (r).
2.15 For Schools, Colleges : Encounter—Germany (r). 2.40 Home Economics (r). Close down at 3.00.
3.25 Dechrau Siarad: Learning Welsh.
3.55 Play School: The story is The Changing Picture by Jean Watson.
4.20 Yogi Bear: Cartoon (r).
4.25 Jackanory: Brigit Forsyth continues The Weather makers.
4.40 Isla and the Farm on the Hill: Winter, and the local fatstock show. Isla learns how to shampoo a bullock and spruce up a sheep.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround.
5.10 The great Grange Hill Debate *(see Personal Choice).*
5.40 News with Kenneth Kendall.
5.55 Nationwide : Including Glyn Worsnip's Home Office feature.
6.55 Daffy Duck: Cartoon (r).
7.05 The Osmonds: Guests are Andy williams and Connie Stevens.
7.35 Life on Earth: The Infinite Variety *(see Personal Choice).*
8.30 Sweet Nothings: Episode 2 of Ted Whitehead's love story, starring Tom Bell and Lynn Farleigh. Tom has to cope with Mary's return to work and Susy moving into a student flat.
9.00 News with Richard Whitmore.
9.25 Flesh and Blood: Worked Out. The penultimate episode.
10.20 Parting Shots from Animals: An Omnibus film, based on essays by John Berger, which looks at man's real attitudes towards animals, *from zoos to cuddly toys,* from wildlife conservation to circuses.
11.10 Platform One: Denis Healey expounds.
11.40 News, weather and regional news.

Animals answer back (10.20).

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Wales: 10.38 am I Ysgolion. *4.40 pm Crystal Tipps and Alistair.* 4.45 Yn Noson Dywyll. 6.55 Wales Today. 7.05 [illegible] 11.20 [illegible] 12.25 am News and weather. Close. Scotland: 10.38 am For Schools. 12.40 pm The Scottish News. 6.55 Reporting Scotland. 7.05 Words and Music. 10.20 Current Account. 10.50 Can Seo. 11.25 Write Away. 11.40 News and weather. Close. Northern Ireland: 10.38 am For Schools. 3.53 pm News. 6.55 Scene Around Six. 7.05 Children and Their Music. 10.20 Spotlight. 10.50 Parting Shots from Animals. 11.40 News and weather. Close. England: 5.55 Regional Magazines. 7.05 East: Pickin' with Pete. London and South East: The Osmonds. Midlands: Look Hear ! North: Lifelines. North East: Looks Natural. North West: Ready Lane Go. South: Hey Look ... That's Me ! South West: Over to You. West: Sports Show. 11.50 Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University : 6.40 Pilgrimage in the Hindu Tradition; 7.05 Seven Card Study; 7.40 Sin (alpha plus beta). Closedown at 7.55.
10.05 Making Union Democracy Work: Series for trade unionists (r).
10.30 Lost for Words : Help for speech-impaired people, with Brian Trueman (repeat from Sunday).
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1 at 3.55.
11.25 Write Away: Personal letters (repeat from Sunday).
11.40 It's A Great Life : Growing Up in the city (r). Closedown at 12.05.
2.30 pm Dilemmas : The link between moral and physical courage, *with Professor Bernard Williams* and Harry Ree.
3.00 Propaganda with Facts : Our Soviet Friends. The cinema's influence on public opinion in the 1940s.
3.30 A Woman's Place ? Getting the Message. Images of women in advertising, the press and on television. Closedown at 3.55.
4.50 Open University : 4.50 Conic Sections ; 5.15 ABC in Kansas City.
5.40 Flash Gordon: The Destroying Ray, with Buster Crabbe.*
6.00 The Waltons : Mary Ellen can think of nothing but passing her nursing exams so that she can join her husband.
6.45 International Bowls: Edited highlights of the first semi-final in the Embassy world indoor championship.
7.20 News with subtitles for the hard of hearing.
7.30 Home Ground: Brian Redhead and Frank Mellor explore the North-West of England. Tonight, Southport.
8.00 Change of Direction: Astronaut Buzz Aldrin explains how his life fell apart after he walked on the moon and what he did about it.
8.30 Writers and Places : A View from Across the Water (see Personal Choice)
9.00 Holocaust: Part 2 of the Hollywood-style fictional account of Hitler's attempt to exterminate all the Jews in Europe.
10.35 Cartoon Two : Piccolo (r).
10.45 Newsnight.
11.30 The Old Grey Whistle Test: Anne Nightingale introduces Ali Thompson, Toyah and—goodness gracious, great balls of fire—Jerry Lee Lewis.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Experiment (Biology). *9.47 Seeing and Doing* (farm visit). 10.04 Reading with Lenny. 10.16 Work. 10.35 The English Programme. 11.05 Leapfrog. 11.22 Good Health. 11.39 The Land *(the Tweed Valley).*
12.00 Paperplay: How to make a cat that bobs up and own.
12.10 pm Pipkins : Many Paws Make Light Work.
12.30 The Sullivans: Australia's war.
1.00 News.
1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Take the High Road: Who has been carrying *out a secret survey* of the Glendarroch Estate ?
2.00 After Noon Plus: Harpist Lucy Wakefield shows off her £5,000 harp—and she's only seven. Also Lady Villiers recalls dangerous days in the wartime Belgian resistance movement.
2.45 Wilde Alliance : A Game for Two Players. Rupert and Amy become involved with a waif called Steve (r).
3.45 Three Little Words, with Don Moss.
4.15 Pop Gospel, with Cliff Richard.
4.45 Magpie: Magazine programme for children.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm : Late-night visitors for Amos Brearly.
5.45 News.
6.00 Thames News with Andrew *Gardner.*
6.25 Help ! with Joan Shenton. The Samaritans.
6.35 Crossroads : Meg Mortimer decides to visit her grandson; questions are asked about Adam Chance.
7.00 Charlie's Angels : Beauty, brains and *bravery from the* glamour-girl gumshoes.
8.00 Armchair Thriller: Fear of God. *Episode 3 of the murder mys*tery involving a strange religious sect.
8.30 Leave It to Charlie : Charlie Fisher attempts to play Cupid as *an office romance runs into trou*bled waters.
9.00 Hollywood: Out West. The birth of the Hollywood Western and the real cowboys and Indians *who made it happen.*
10.00 News.
10.30 The Brinsworth Tribute Show (See Personal Choice).
11.30 Thames Debate: The motion *is that " the Labour Party has* served its purpose; it is time for a new party ".
12.15 am Close.

Lynn Clayton in Episode 3 of the thriller Fear of God (ITV, 8.00)

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today.
7.00,8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call.
10.00 News.
10.05 In Britain Now. 10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story Time.
11.00 News.
11.05 Play: Practical People.
11.35 Local Edition.
12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.20 Down Your Way.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Listen With Mother.
3.15 Women in Love (1).†
4.10 Bookshelf.
4.45 Story: Touchwood.
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Just a *Minute.*†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The Restless Years (7).
8.05 In Touch.
8.30 *Choirs of Wales.*
9.15 From Our Own Correspondent.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Hornblower Story.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in *Parliament.*
12.00 News.
12.15-12.23 am Weather.

VHF
6.50 am Regional news, weather.
7.50 Regional news, weather.
9.15-10.30 Schools: Voix de France; Deutsch *fur* die Oberstufe; The World of Work; Playtime.
10.45-12.00 Schools : La France Aujourd'hui ; Let's Move! ; *Music* Club: Introducing Science.
2.00-3.00 pm Schools: History—Not So Long Ago; Days That Made History ; Stories and Rhymes.
5.50 Regional news, weather
11.00 Study on 4: Por aqui (18).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: Renaissance and Reformation ; Irony and Tom Jones.

Radio 3

6.55 am (mw only) Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Arne, Beethoven (op 54—Richter), Giuliani, Gluck.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Mozart (K162), Milhaud, Villa-Lobos, Saint-Saens.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Brahms.†
10.00 The Trio-Sonata.†
11.00 Young Composers '79.†
11.30 Cello (Varshavsky): Khachaturian, Britten (op 72).†
12.15 pm BBC Scottish SO/Rickenbacher, pt 1 : Mozart, Tchaikovsky (Suite 4).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six continents: world news.
1.25 BBCSSO, pt 2: Stravinsky, Glinka.†
2.00 *Piano (Kitchin): Busoni.*†
2.30 In the Shadows of the Great: Robbins Landon on Cimarosa.†
3.25 Records: Enesco (incl Sym 1).†
4.25 *Jazz Today.*†
4.55 News.
5.00 (mw and mono only from 6.20) Music for early evening.†
7.00 Wind (Vienna Soloists): Taf-*fenel.*†
7.30 Play : The Streets of Pompeii, by Henry Reed (F. Robson/M. Goring).†
9.10 Vienna Concentus Musicus/ Harnoncourt, pt 1 : Fasch, Schmelzer.†
9.45 Interval reading.
9.50 Vienna CM, pt 2: Bach, Vivaldi, Telemann.†
10.45 Stories and poems about food.
11.00 Cello, piano : Bach, Schu*mann, Dvorak, Sain-Saens.*†
11.55-12.00 News.

VHF
6.00 am-7.00 Open University: Cognitive Development: Why Design a Dome ? ; The Cell Nucleus.
6.20 pm-7.00 Open University: Freud and Ibsen; Interlude.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Steve *Jones.*† 7.32 Ray Moore.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 5.00 News. 5.05 Waggoners' Walk. 5.20 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Hubert Gregg. 9.02 International Boxing. 10.30 Frankie Howerd.† *11.30* Brian Matthew. 2.02-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 6.00 Dave Lee *Travis.* 9.00 *Simon* Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Peebles. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 7.00 Personal Call. 8.00 Mike Read. 9.50 Newsbeat. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00-5.00 am As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 9.02 pm Glamorous Nights.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in western Europe on medium wave (648kHz, 463m) at the following times: 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 [illegible]. 8.30 [illegible] Grey's World of Ballet. 9.00 World News. *9.09 British Press Review* 9.15 The World Today. [illegible] 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Nature Notebook. 10.00 DJ Roundtable. 10.30 Sports International. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 11.25 Scotland This Week. [illegible] table or Mineral. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Melos Ensemble. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show. 2.30 Talkabout. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 5.00 World News. 5.03 Scotland This Week. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland This Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. *11.15 Come Here.* 11.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 [illegible] 2.00 World News. 2.09 British Press Review. 2.15 [illegible] 2.30 Talkabout. 3.00 World News. 3.09 *News about Britain.* 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 [illegible] Time. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Sounds that Sold a Million. 4.45 Financial News. *4.55 Reflections.* 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or *433m/693kHz and 88-91* VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only ; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service : med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m. 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Granada

As London except: 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 5.10 This is Your *Right.* 5.15 Crossroads. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30 Emmerdale Farm. 7.00 A Man Called Sloane. 11.30 Fireside Theatre.

Anglia

As London except: 1.25 pm Anglia news. 6.00 About Anglia. 7.00 Bygones. 7.30 You're Only Young Twice. 11.30 *Mrs Columbo.* 12.25 am Anthology.

Yorkshire

As London except: 1.20 pm Calendar news. 3.45 Calendar Tuesday. 5.15 How's Your Father ? 6.00 Calendar. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Survival. 11.30 Sidestreet.

Border

As London except: 1.20 pm Border news. 5.15 Father Dear Father. 6.00 Lookaround Tuesday. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Survival. 11.30 Luke's Kingdom. 12.30 am Border news.

Westward

As London except: 1.20 pm Westward news. 5.12 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 Westward Diary. 10.28 Westward news. 11.30 Kaz. 12.25 am Faith for Life.

HTV

As London except: 1.20 pm Report West. 3.45 The Entertainers. 5.15 Manilla Gorilla. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Best in the West. 7.00 Incredible Hulk. 11.30 Celebrity *Concert.*
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As General Service except: 10.16 am [illegible] 12.00 Ffalabalam. 1.20 pm [illegible] *Newyddion y Dydd.* 1.25 *Report Wales.* 4.15 Sbardun. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30 Worzel Gummidge. 10.30 [illegible] 11.15 World in Action. *11.45 Father Dear Father.*
HTV WEST: No variations.

Ulster

As London except: 10.16 am Hop, Skip and Jump. 1.20 *pm Lunchtime.* 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 A Drop in Your Hand. 11.30 Barney Miller. 12.00 *Bedtime.*

ATV

As London except: 12.30 pm [illegible] Hamilton TV. 1.20 ATV Newsdesk. 5.15 [illegible] 6.00 ATV Today. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 England Their England. 11.30 ATV Newsdesk. 11.35 Night Flight.

Channel

As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20 Channel News. 5.15 Bailey's Bird. 6.00 Report at Six. 10.28 Channel News. 11.30 Kaz. 12.25 am News and weather in French.

Tyne Tees

As London except: 9.20 am The Good Word. 1.20 pm North-East News. 5.15 How's Your Father. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Survival. 11.30 North-East News. 11.35 Fireside Theatre. 12.30 am Epilogue.

Southern

As London except: 1.20 pm Southern News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Doctor Down Under. 11.30 Southern News. 11.35 Fireside Theatre. 12.30 am Weather, and Religion for the Irreligious.

Grampian

As London except: Starts 9.25 am First Thing. 1.20 pm North News. [illegible] North Tonight. 7.00 Love Boat. 10.30 [illegible] 11.05 Celebrity Concert. 12.00 People of My People. 12.30 am North Headlines.

Scottish

As London except: 1.20 pm Scottish News. 1.30 [illegible] 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 What's Your Problem ? 7.00 Take the High Road. 7.30 [illegible] 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Dan [illegible] 12.05 am George Hamilton IV.

(continued on page 26)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

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Alterations to copy is 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

"... But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing."—Galatians 4: 18.

BIRTHS

BLACKMORE.—On 20th February, 1980, at Buckenham Maternity Hospital, to Josephine (née Nichols) and David—a daughter (Arabella Sophie)—a sister for Harriet Beth.

BOND.—On February 29th at West ...

HANNON.—On Feb 21, at Clatterbridge, to Rosemary and Michael—a daughter (Bridget Elizabeth Stewart-Moore), a sister for Jane and Edward.

HUNT-COOKE.—On February 28th, to Honor (née Fulkes) and David—a daughter (Caroline Jane).

JONES.—On 27 February, to Angela (née Atkinson) and Simon—a son (George Mark Randle), a brother for Emelia.

LEIGHTON DAVIS.—On February 29th at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Carol (née Evans) and Alan—a second son (Evan John).

McFARLANE.—On March 3rd, to Kathy (née McNeil) and Barrie—a son (Donald Barrie).

MOONEY.—On March 3rd, 1980, in Colchester, to Gail (née Turner) and Brian—a daughter.

RETTIE.—On February 29th, to Caren (née Loeffler) and Nicholas—a son (Antony Peter).

WILLS.—On February 29th, to Geraldine (née Freeman) and David—a son (Robert Hartingdon), a brother for Sarah.

MARRIAGES

GOLDEN WEDDING

MOBBS : HAYLES.—On March 4th, 1930, at All Souls, Langham Place, London, W.1, Eric to Margaret. Still at Gateside, Stoke Poges, Bucks.

POOLE : RAMSAY.—On 4th March, 1930, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, Arthur to Viola Isabel, present address: The Quarrin, Fairmeads, Cobham, Surrey.

DEATHS

APPLEGATE.—On March 2nd, 1980, suddenly at his home, Blue Gates, Belton Road, Epworth, Doncaster, Morriss Henry, aged 60 years, beloved husband of Jean, dear father of Stuart, Susan, Jonathan and Joanna, and a very dear grandfather. Donations in memory in aid of Epworth Parish Church Renovation Fund may be forwarded to C. W. Fields & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, Station Road, Epworth, Doncaster.

BARDOLPH.—On 27th February, suddenly but peacefully in her sleep at her home, Barbara Audrey, widow of James Forrester Bardolph, D.S.C., and mother of James. Funeral at Beckenham Crematorium, Elmers End Road, Beckenham, Kent, Friday March 7th at 10.00 a.m. Please no flowers.

BELL.—On February 28th 1980 at Kettering General Hospital, Elizabeth of 3 Poplars Farm Road, Kettering. Dearly loved wife of the late William Charles. Funeral service at St Botolph's Church, Barton Seagrave, Kettering on Wednesday March 5th at 11.00 a.m., followed by cremation. Family flowers only please to H. J. Phillips and Son (Funeral Directors) Ltd, 25-27 Princes Street, Kettering. Telephone Kettering 2144.

BIDDER.—On February 24th, Alan Mortimer McClean, younger son of the late Lt.-Col. H. F. and Mrs. Bidder. Committal service at Nettlebed, Oxon., on Friday, March 7 at 12 noon.

BRUNDRETT.—On February 29th, 1980, peacefully in her 80th year, Mary Elizabeth Brundrett (née Horne), widow of Edward Brundrett O.B.E. of Acton Farm, Charing, Kent and Good Chean Farm, Hinxhill and much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service at Charing Crematorium, Kent, 9 am, Wednesday, March 5th. Family flowers only but donations if desired may be made to any chosen charity.

BYE.—On March 3rd, peacefully, at The Clarence Nursing Home, Tunbridge Wells, Mildred Anna, late of Wadhurst and Tunbridge Wells, wife of the late Doctor N. H. Bye and much loved Great Aunt of Rosemary Bye. Service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Friday, March 7th, at 12 noon.

CHAPMAN.—On March 1st, 1980, peacefully at St. Marks Hospital, Maidenhead, after a short illness, Helen, aged 92 years, beloved mother of Mrs. W. Menzies of Grafton Lodge, Belmont Park Road, Maidenhead. Funeral private. Remembrance service at Holy Trinity Church, Cookham on Thames, on Friday, March 7th, at 11.30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN-EDWARDS.—On February 29th, in his 84th year, Thomas Guy, dear husband of Dorothy and much loved father of Michael, Janet and Lucy. Funeral private, family flowers only to MacLean Funeral Service, Lowestoft Road, Watford. Service of thanksgiving at Christ Church, Radlett, at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5th. Donations if desired to Abbyfield (Radlett) Society, 35 Park Road, Radlett, Herts.

DICK-CLELAND.—On March 1st, 1980, after a brief illness, Janet Allan, of Dragons Hill Court, Keynsham, Bristol, dearly loved Aunt and Great Aunt to all her family, former Headmistress of Merrywood Grammar School for Girls. Funeral service Keynsham Parish Church, on Thursday, March 6th, at 11.30 a.m., followed by cremation. Flowers may be sent to Jolly's Funeral Directors, Milsom Street, Bath, or donations to Keynsham Parish Church.

DUFF.—On 3rd March, Charles Michael Robert Vivian Duff, Bt, of Vaynol, Bangor, peacefully after a long illness, in his 73rd year. Cremation private. No letters or flowers please, but any donations, if desired, to Queen Alexander Hospital, Gifford House, Worthing.

EISINGER.—On 27th February at Plattsburgh in USA, Peter. Mourned by his wife, four children, his mother and family. Funeral service on Tuesday 4th ...

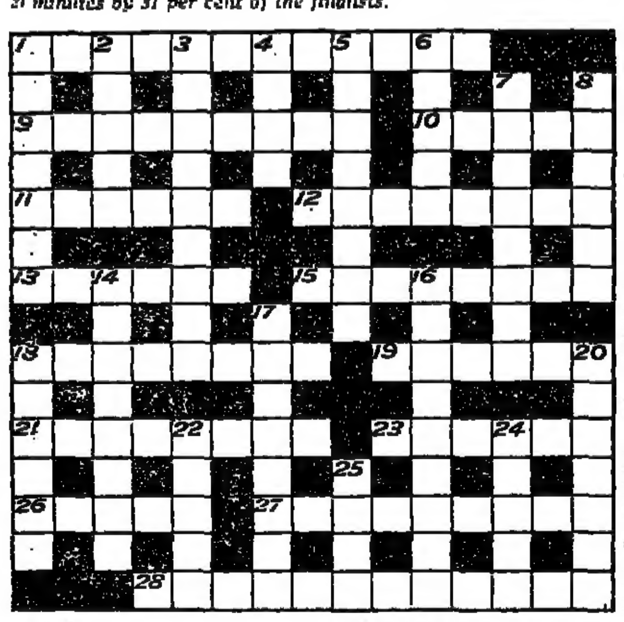
HAMSON ... HAYMAN ... JEVONS ... LANGTON-JONES ... LEA-COX ... LESTER ... MACLEAN ... MACLURE ... McKEE ... MANNING ... MARTIN ... MILLNS ... MORSE ... NORTHROP ... PERKIN ... RIDLEY ... ROGERS ... SHORTT ... SIDGWICK ... SIMPSON ... WOODBURN ...

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ASTOR ... BEATON ... DE GRELLE ... METCALFE ... PEARSON ...

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,164

This puzzle, used at the London A regional final of the Cutty Sark Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 31 per cent of the finalists.



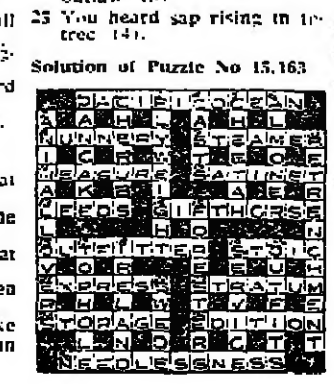
ACROSS

1 Geneva's contribution to the war effort? (5, 7).
9 A northern French night worker has a regular income (9).
10 They lost the point that Baker needed (5).
11 In mid-week ten cents is the duty (6).
12 Mobster whose joint gets highest honour (8).
13 College in America? On the contrary, a station (6).
15 Man on these completely analogous to a dog? (3, 5).
18 This route out of use keeps money away (8).
19 Greek volcano appears romantically green (6).
21 Birds (lucky dogs?) (8).
23 Abroad she's in a small part, no big shot (6).
26 Fumes, losing first of tug-of-war contenders (5).
27 Pure nonsense. The board is above suspicion (9).
28 Sounds of matriarchy (5-7).

DOWN

1 Pinafore sailor's visual block? (4-3).
2 Dough we hear is what the doctor ordered (5).
3 As the lion perhaps that falls from the sky (9).
4 Tent-maker finding heaven in the wilderness (4).
5 To restore roof make proper insertion—it's in the bar (8).
6 Like Johnson's nations ere Garrick's death (5).
7 Stone-thrower causes a slight blow in system of worship (8).
8 City pagans? Not he! (6).
14 Runner more self-satisfied about money (8).
16 No cold buffet for this performer (4-5).
17 In war everyone loves the beast (8).
18 Lower road in which we find a playwright (6).
20 She takes part in Hamlet's thing (7).
22 River to sea uphill? He told stories (5).
24 Rachel's father, the French outlaw (5).
25 You heard sap rising in the tree (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,163



PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 25

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES

The Times deeply regrets the inconvenience and reduction in service to its classified advertisers. This is caused by severe staff shortages in the Telephone Sales Department. Whilst everything possible is being done to improve the situation, we would ask advertisers to continue sending advertisements and notices in writing to The Times, Room N315, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. If you require any further help, please ring 01-837 3311; we apologize should there be a delay in getting through.

IN MEMORIAM

HARRIS, EUPHEMIA DOROTHY.—In ever-loving memory of our darling Muth. We thank you sweetheart for all your love and devotion.—Dadwad and Oasisy Billy Buntums, Jacky, Peter and Dickums.

PARKIN.—In happy and ever-loving memory of my father, John Parkin, M.C., O.B.E., and of my much loved mother, Marguerite Parkin, 4th March, 1958 and 16th June, 1969.—Colette.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

N. L. HAMILTON-SMITH.—I would like to thank all those friends who have written such warm and sympathetic letters about Brooke; and also for the lovely flowers. I would like to add how much all of us appreciate the many tributes to his character. Sincerely Mary I. Hamilton-Smith.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CAT SHOW.—Casa Pupo Art Gallery. Prints, drawings and watercolours of the feline race. March 1st-31st. First floor, 56 Pimlico Road, S.W.1. 730 2657.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH

"What can I do to help?" Everyone has asked that question—the answer is that you can help to fight cancer. The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, the largest independent cancer research centre in Europe, relies solely on voluntary contributions. Please send your donation to.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND.

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THE FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY

ABANDONED

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THE GASLIGHT of St. James' London's top businessman's night club. 2 bars, restaurant, dancing, cabaret spots. No membership required. Open Mon.-Fri., 8 p.m.-2 a.m., Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 4, Duke of York St., S.W.1. 01-930 1648/4950.

YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE School. 18-35 age group. 373 1665.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SPRING SKIING

It's not too late to enjoy sunshine and snow on a March skiing holiday. We still have a few vacancies, mainly for one week, for departures on 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th March. Hurry! Contact us now for details.

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ABTA, AITO, ATOL 332BC

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ATOL 175 BCD

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Availability in self-catering villas, tavernas and hotels. Day flights from Gatwick, on Thursdays and Saturdays.

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Phone: 01-267 9211

ABTA ATOL 331 B

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46 weekly departures from 5 U.K. departure points to GENEVA, BASLE, BERNE, and ZURICH from £69 return. Falcon offer the most economical and competitive flight *arrangements. We also accept* Access and B/C for instant bookings by telephone. 24hr. Brochurefone 01-352 7763. London 01-351 2191. Manchester 061-831 7001. Glasgow 041-204 0242.

ABTA ATOL 369B

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Fully staffed villas on the privately owned island of Mustique from £475 per person for two weeks, including flights and car hire. Holidays from *£350 per person for two weeks*, including flights, in fully staffed villas on the beautiful islands of St. Lucia. For colour portfolios contact:

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EASTER OR SUMMER VENTURE

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(continued on page 25)

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